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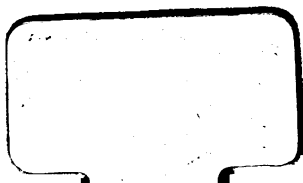
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2



The Manx Society

ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR

MDCCCLVIII



VOL. XXV.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN
PRINTED FOR THE MANX SOCIETY

MDCCCLXXXVI

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HISTORY OF THE ISLE OF MAN

A HISTORY
OF
THE ISLE OF MAN

WRITTEN BY

WILLIAM BLUNDELL, Esq.

OF CROSBY, CO. LANCASTER

1648-1656

PRINTED FROM A MANUSCRIPT IN THE POSSESSION
OF THE MANX SOCIETY

EDITED BY

WILLIAM HARRISON

VOL. I.

DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN

PRINTED FOR THE MANX SOCIETY

MDCCCLXXVI

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CONTENTS OF VOL. I.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTORY NOTICE BY THE EDITOR	xiii
AUTHOR'S PREFACE	xxiii

THE FIRST BOOK

CHAPTER I.

Of the Island of Man in General	1
---	---

CHAPTER II.

Of several Names imposed by ancient writers upon y ^e Island of Man	18
--	----

CHAPTER III.

Of the Length, Breadth, and Situation of y ^e Island of Man	21
---	----

CHAPTER IV.

Of the Island of Man in Particular. How the Island is divided	28
---	----

CHAPTER V.

Of certain Islands appertaining unto the Isle of Man	32
--	----

CHAPTER VI.

	PAGE
Of the Air, y ^e Soil, the Sea, and Commodities of the Isle of Man	38

CHAPTER VII.

Of the Manksmen, the Inhabitants and Natives of the Isle of Man in General	53
---	----

CHAPTER VIII.

Of y ^e Towns of the Island of Man in General	65
---	----

CHAPTER IX.

Of y ^e Towns in Particular, their Scituation, Manner of Govern- ment, and of y ^e Inhabitants therein	74
---	----

CHAPTER X.

Of their Fishing for Herrings in the Isle of Man, their custom and form observ'd therein	85
---	----

CHAPTER XI.

Of the Havens, Castles, and Fortresses, within the Isle of Man	88
--	----

CHAPTER XII.

Of the Continual Watch kept in the Isle of Man, and their Customary Laws concerning the same	95
---	----

THE SECOND BOOK

	PAGE
Treateth of the Political Government of the Isle of Man, and of their Laws and Customs	99

CHAPTER I.

DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS.

SECTION I.—Of the little Kingdom of Man in General	100
SECTION II.—Concerning the Antiquity of the Kings of Man	103
SECTION III.—Whether the Kings of Man were Absolute Kings or not	106

CHAPTER II.

Of the Kings of Man in General, and of the Extent of their Power and Dominion of the Western Islands, called Hebrides	112
---	-----

CHAPTER III.

The Cronocle of the Isle of Man, taken out of Mr. Cambden of the British Isles	118
---	-----





INTRODUCTORY NOTICE BY THE EDITOR.



BLUNDELL OF CROSBY, Co. LANCASTER.

Arms—Sable, 10 billets, 4, 3, 2, and 1, argent.

Crest—A demi Lion, sable—A cross tau-fitchy, argent.

THE Blundells of Crosby have been seated there prior to the time of Edward I.¹

The father of the historian of the Isle of Man was Nicholas Blundell, who married Jane, daughter of Sir Roger Bradshaigh of Haigh, Co. Lancaster. He died 18th June 1631, leaving two sons and six daughters. His eldest son, William of Crosby, born 15th July 1620, married Anne, second daughter of Sir Thomas Haggerston, Co. Northumberland, first Baronet of Haggerston, by Alice, his wife, only daughter of Henry Banaster of Bank, by whom he had four sons and ten daughters. This William Blundell, the historian, had his thigh broken at the siege of Lathom House, fighting on the Royal side. His name does not appear in the *Journal of the Siege of Lathom House*, 1644: London, 1823. The editor is unable to give the date of Mr. Blundell's decease or place of

¹ A pedigree of this house is given in Baines's *Lancashire*, 1836, vol. iv. p. 218.

sepulture, having written to the present possessor of Crosby Hall for that purpose, but has not received any reply to his application.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that the author of this MS. *History of the Isle of Man*, which we are about to print for the first time, and which subsequent writers have so frequently made use of, was descended from an honourable and long-standing Lancashire family, whose descendants are still residing on their old paternal estate.

It appears Mr. Blundell came to the Island in 1648, as he informs us in his preface, "wearied with being so often wakened at midnight to fly from the King's and Parliament's troops, both equally feared, because equally plundering;" and in the eleventh chapter of the first book he informs us he retired out of it the same year. During his residence here he employed his leisure time in collecting the materials for his future History, which he embodied in the folio manuscripts that have come down to us. It may be regarded as the oldest general History of the Island, made from personal observation on the spot,—for Camden and other writers had never visited the Island, and Chaloner had not at that time been appointed one of Lord Fairfax's Commissioners.

In December 1651, Thomas, Lord Fairfax, having been, by Act of Parliament of the 29th September 1649, invested with the government of the Island, appointed, August 17th, 1652, James Chaloner, with two others, Commissioners to enquire into his estate in the Island, with the yearly value thereof. Chaloner

was Governor from 1658 to 1660. In 1653 he wrote his *Short Treatise of the Isle of Man*, first published in King's *Vale Royal*, 1656, being the first published connected account of the Island, from materials obtained on the spot. This has been reprinted in the tenth volume of the Manx Society's series. Mr. Blundell subsequently made use of some of Chaloner's statements in writing out his *History*; and Sacheverell, in his *Account*, in 1703, as well as later writers, have made use of both.

51 Seacome,¹ in the introduction to his *Account of the Isle of Man*, appended to his *History of the House of Stanley*, the first edition of which was printed in Liverpool, 1736, thus alludes to Mr. Blundell's MSS.: "This Island appears but little or hardly known to the ancients, and amongst all our modern historians and geographers there is not one has given any tolerable account of it before Mr. James Chaloner, Governor for the Lord Fairfax, and the great and learned Mr. Blundell of Crosby, who prudently retired thither during the usurpation, whereby he preserved his person in peace and security, and his estate from all manner of depredation."² This gentleman, being a person of polite learning, employed his leisure hours in collecting the History and Antiquities of the Isle of Man, and by his manuscripts, which I have seen,

¹ John Seacome was house-steward to William, ninth Earl of Derby.

² This does not appear to have been the case from the statement made by Mr. Blundell in his preface, as well as in his letter to Mr. Warmer, under date 2d May 1687, hereafter given.

gave posterity the clearest and most correct account of it."

Seacome, in compiling his History, had access to the manuscripts in the Knowsley Library, amongst which was that of Mr. Blundell of Crosby, whom, as we have before observed, he styles "the great and learned." An extract from this MS. is given in the Appendix of the *Stanley Papers*, part iii. p. cccclxxiv., Chetham Society, vol. lxvii., 1867. This is most probably Mr. Blundell's original manuscript, from which various transcripts have been taken. One is in the possession of G. E. Wicksted, Esq., of Shakenhurst, Bewdley, in the County of Worcester, but wanting the title.¹ This is the copy mentioned by Townley in his *Journal*, 1789-90, vol. ii. p. 226. Another transcript is in the possession of M. H. Quayle, Esq., of Castletown, Isle of Man, which the Rev. Mr. Cumming considered as the original, and the one made use of both by Sacheverell and Seacome; but there is little doubt the latter gentleman took his extracts from the Knowsley MS. Another copy, now belonging to the Manx Society, but in an imperfect state, formerly belonged to Mr. Edmund Moore, of Douglas, 1760. In making up this copy from that of Mr. Quayle, for the purpose of rendering it complete for the press, it was found to agree so minutely in each page, that they appear to have been transcribed by the same person from one copy, probably from that at Knowsley.

¹ Application was made to Mr. Wicksted in 1871 from the Manx Society for permission to take a copy of the portion defective in their MS., which Mr. Wicksted declined to allow.

Mr. Townley, in his *Journal*, gives a wrong title to this MS., which he supposes was written by a Welsh justice. He has given copious extracts from it in his second volume. The MS., he states, then belonged to Mr. James Oates of Douglas. Feltham, in 1798, mentions the one in the possession of Mr. Moore of Douglas, being the one from which the present edition is for the first time printed.

From the manner in which the MS. has been prepared, it was evidently the intention of the author to have it printed, and it is to be regretted this was not done in his lifetime, while it could have had the benefit of his revising pen. Probably the unsettled state of the times when he wrote the account may be one reason, and on the Restoration, society being so unhinged that it behoved every one to look after the remnant of property that had been left to him.

There is little doubt Mr. Blundell suffered in his estate like the rest of the Lancashire gentry who supported the cause of their king; and the mere fact of professing the Roman Catholic religion subjected "the delinquent" to forfeit two parts out of three of his whole estate, and two parts of his goods. What was the extent of Mr. Blundell's contributions I have not been able to learn. That his suffering in the Royal cause, and the exactions from his estate for the use of the Commonwealth, must have been very great, and left him in comparative indigence, with a large family to provide for, will be seen from the following interesting extract from a letter (when he was about sixty-

seven years of age), addressed to Mr. John Warmer, dated Crosby Hall, 2d of May 1687 :—

“ The importunity of friends, and my own slender fortune, wth y^e great number of children dependent on my family, do incline me to petition y^e king for some small advantageous employment upon a civil account. And tho’ I cannot pretend to any great degree of merit, yet it is my opinion y^t there are few alive at y^e present of thos that served y^e king at y^e beginning of our civil warrs in 1642 that suffer’d so much for the crown, and acted so little for it, as I have don. I designed to have acted more ; I sot up my rest upon it, and ventured my all. My equipage then for the warre was far above my fortune. But in y^e first day of my services, before I had mustered y^e 100 dragoons w^{ch} I was, by commission, raising, I lost the use of my limbs by a shot, and could never recover them since to make them sufficiently able for y^e fatigue of war. Upon this there followed y^e plunder of almost all my goods, and the sequestration of my lands, w^{ch} was continued for ten years. My lands were then sold by an Act of Parliament ! yet were they happily bought by my friends wth money provided by me, for my behouf. After I was lamed in y^e war, tho’ I could not use a sword, I was 4 times made a prisoner, and payd my ransom twice : and my estate being bought as above-said, I paid y^e 10th part of y^e revenue by an arbitrary law of Cromwell’s for sundry years.”¹ (Signed) “ W. B.”

Mr. Blundell had studied the law at Lincoln’s Inn,

¹ Baines’s Lancashire, 1836, vol. iv. pp. 216-17.

but did not prosecute it in after life, preferring literary pursuits, as may be inferred from the learning and research displayed in the compilation of the History now before us. Being severely wounded early in the Rebellion, having espoused the royal cause, we are most probably indebted to that for turning his attention to the Isle of Man (the then residence of so many Lancashire gentry, and under the governorship of John Greenhalgh, also a Lancashire man), and writing its History. Its compilation was almost complete when the publication of that of Chaloner appeared in 1656, from which Mr. Blundell thought it advisable to make several extracts, in order to render his own account more perfect; these he has noted in their several places.

In the various notes appended, as to the authorities quoted, Mr. Blundell has omitted to give the dates of the various editions; but of course these would be prior to the time of his writing.

The Council of the Manx Society, considering this History of sufficient interest to form one of their series, have placed their copy of Mr. Blundell's papers in the Editor's hands, for the purpose of passing them through the press. It has been considered advisable to adhere to the diction as well as the mode of spelling proper names as there given, and the literary peculiarities of Mr. Blundell have been retained, which, quaint as they may appear at the present day, add an interest to his account of the manners and customs of the people at the time he wrote, which, as time rolled on, have fallen into disuse, or been blended into

other customs and laws ; yet these statements will be found highly instructive as to what were the customs of the Island more than two hundred years ago.

It has been considered unnecessary to add to the text notes which have so amply been heretofore given in the Society's Series by the Rev. Mr. Cumming, in his reprints of Chaloner and Sacheverell, embracing the same period of time as the present History, and to which the reader is referred.

This edition of the work in its entirety, as left by the author, will, it is hoped, be acceptable to the Members of the Manx Society, as well as a valuable contribution to the History of the Isle of Man.

WILLIAM HARRISON.

ROCKMOUNT, *12th August* 1876.

AN
EXACT CHRONOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL
DISCOVERY

OF THE HITHERTO UNKNOWN

ISLE OF MAN

CONTAINING

A TRUE AND PERFECT DESCRIPTION OF THIS ISLAND AT LARGE;
THE HISTORY OF THEIR ANTIENT KINGS, LATE LORDS, AND
BISHOPS OF Y^E ISLAND; THE CEREMONIES OF THEIR
INAUGURATIONS AND INSTALLMENTS;

TOGETHER WITH

THE POLITICAL GOVERNMENT THERE PRACTISED;
AND THEIR COURTS OF JUSTICE, AND STRANGE MANNER OF THEIR
CITATIONS AND FORMS OF PLEADINGS IN Y^E ISLAND.

AS ALSO DISCOVERING

ALL THEIR LAWS AND CUSTOMS

AS WELL POLITICAL, LEGAL, OR ECCLESIASTICAL, BOTH ANTIENT
OR MODERN.

WHEREIN LIKEWISE

ARE LAID OPEN AND RECTIFIED THE MANY ABUSIVE, ERRONEOUS, AND
MISINFORMED RELATIONS OF HECTOR BOETIUS, AND OF ALL THOSE
THAT HAVE HITHERTO WRITTEN OF THIS ISLAND.

NEVER HITHERTO DISCOVERED OR PUBLISHED BY ANY.



THE AUTHOR TO THE READER.

IN the year 1648, which threatned so fatally and climaterically the period of y^e Monarchy of England, Scotland, and Ireland, wearied with being so often wakened at midnight to fly from the King's and Parliament's troops (both equally feared, because equally plundering), and finding no shelter under the Snodon hills, which Cambden calleth the Alps of Brittanny, where y^e antient Britains found security (whilst y^e woods were unwasted, and Carnarvenshire kept the name of Snodon Forrest) ; but being now laid open both by y^e view and access of an invader, from these men I resolve to banish myself voluntarily for a time in the Island of Man, where divers of y^e Nobility had been banished by divers of our Kings. And altho' I had then many giantlike difficulties to deterr me, as y^t it had y^e reports of a barren Island, my small means left after for my plundering and late sequestration. Besides unknown of any the accompanied and only y^e weaker (and in Josephus's phrase) of the worser sex, yet a few slight motives were sufficiently powerful to invite me whither (as I conceived) necessity compelled me.

For, first, y^e Island being but as a little molehill moted about with y^e main sea, and removed from England, I fancied it as a place freed from our Island, so likewise freed from our fears and troubles, and therefore probably I cou'd not meet with any nightmares in Man to molest me. Moreover, y^t

small means might issue in a more penurious place, and besides all these, it may be I might have some little tittillation of curiosity by this occasion to see what there was to be seen, and to observe whether there were any thing wo'th y^e observation in a place remote, neglected, and seldom frequented, except by such as were meerly necessitated. But being now engaged, and under sail, I found y^t true which almost all do experiment, y^t our greatest fears are not always y^e greatest things to be feared (y^e particulars thereof doth little concern y^e reader on this my present engagement), but I render most humble acknowledgments to y^e Div. Disposer of all things here on earth, y^t hath so graciously ordained y^t no misery should be imortal to a mortal man.

Whilst I was rocked in y^e floating cradle of my little skiff (but I had much more leisure, being landed), contemplating y^e Island, and reflecting upon its name, there occurred to my memory Moses's expression and interpretation of y^e word Man, in y^e sacred text of its original language, importing as much as to say what is this, for the text saith, "they wist not what it was,"¹ which name may still (not unfitly) be given to this Island, for notwithstanding all y^t any have written thereof, we are still put to ask what is this Island? How is it governed? With what laws, political or ecclesiastical? The power, antiquity, and succession of y^e Kings and Lords of Man?

Of their Bishops, and many other particulars most important and requisitely necessary for the compleating of an History, *Mr. James Chaloner*² only, and y^t very lately, when I had almost ended this work of mine, in a little Treatise of y^e legal Government, and y^e practick part hereof, he hath so exactly discovered unto us, as none as yet had done, so none could do but he and Mr. Tinsley, the Lord Fairfax, his Attorney for y^t Island, and let this part be ascribed to their honour

¹ Exodus xvi. 15.

² Description of ye Isle of Man. (1656.)

only. As for Julius Cesar, Ptolomy, Dion Cassius, Tacitus, Beotius, and some other, their contemporans, they are well observed by one of our curious teachers¹ of antiquity to have left unto us, *nil nisi honor*; and although Cæsar says y^t many had written of this Island, yet I find one only, Demetrius, a Briton, to be named, and he, by Plutarch, who is said to have written an exact Treatise of y^e Brittish Isles, y^e loss of which work is not a little to be lamented, because now no where extant; yet Mr. Cambden calleth it a fabulous narration.

But y^e sullen silence of y^e age succede at is by none much admired, y^t neither Guildas, Ninius, V. Bede, Geffrey Monmouth, Guiraldus Cambrenses, have not vouchsafed to discover to posterity any y^e least particular Treatise apart concerning this Island of Man; wherein they seem by their silence to verify the Manks men's Traditions, y^t their Island was not discovered till of late years. That for divers ages before, especially during y^e raynd of Mana-Man-Mac-Lea, y^e necromancier, it had been invisible and unaccessable. The same is s^d to have been practised by Nictobanus, King of Egypt, and y^e like hereof is at this day confidently related² of y^t as yet unknown Island, not far from the north-west part of Ireland, and by them O'Brazille, which Island in one place there, northward betwixt two rocks (but by any man at a great distance at sea), is plainly to be seen and discerned, yet not to be discovered by any approach, which was experimented by S^r Rich^d Buckley of Anglissey, where was fruitlessley endeavoured y^e discovery thereof, by twice manning out a ship of his own from Beaumaris.

And what more have Ralph Higdon, Walsingham, Leland, Polydore Virgil, or any of our Chronoclers added, except only y^e names of some havens, creeks, and such like? Will^m

¹ Humphrey Lord, Epist. ad Artelium.

² Vincent le Blane, in his Travailer, 1st. 3 C. 2, saith, y^t from Mount Thencriffe is discovered an Island, but go to it and you find nothing. To it is given 3 names—y^e fortunate, the enchanted, and y^e not to be found.

Harrison hath, indeed, in one leaf in folio, written more than all, and had much merited if he had writ as truly as he did confidently ; but having almost as many lies as lines (as I shall demonstrate in y^e sequel in their several places), having nothing of his own, but taken upon trust, I cordially wish he had been silent. From geographers (even y^e latest), amongst whom they have best deserved, and by me best respected, is Mercator and M^r Hely (our compatriot) ; for these, indeed, endeavoured to publish truth as near as they could ; but from Maginus, Alfonso Testatius, Joh. Bellandom, Andrew de Chesme (y^e King of France's geographer), Ph. Cluverius, y^e Hollander, or such, I expected little or no adjovancy at all, for these geographers seem to me to resemble Cartaphilus, or rather Josephus (it being his Christian, and therefore his better name), but coñonly known, and called and known by y^e name of y^e Wandering Jew, whom Mathew Paris relateth had peragrated all y^e Universe over, but made no stay in any place, until his pilgrimage performed by land, he now resideth in Armenia, where y^e ruins of Noah's Ark resteth also after its voyage by water, so these geographers, wandering thus, concisely and cursorily run over all places and countries, but never intended to make it their design to particularize all y^e parts of any particular part of y^e world. It pitied me much, therefore, to look upon these geographers, their laconical descriptions of this my little Man, and to observe how they have made him in effect a diminutive dwarf.

Notwithstanding, we find a few others, in these our times, y^t have contributed their endeavours to y^e utmost of their power towards our satisfaction ; for y^e indefatigable Bishop of Armagh¹ (a learned Antiquary) hath much satisfied me in my discovery of divers Bishops of Man, and his disavowing of Hector Boetis and his Vermundus, and of both their forged Ampeibatus ; but he wittily waveth all discourse of

¹ James Usser de primordiis Celest. Brit.

y^e Island itself. S^r Edw Cook,¹ in less than one sheet of paper, hath divulged 3 records concerning this Island, and therein hath much merited of Man, and nice and truly, so long as he employ'd his talents in his own element as a lawyer and a great reader of records. None, therefore, hath exceeded him; but in y^e rest of y^t chapter, being transumpted from others, by adhering to them hath detracted from himself.

A little before these 2 last there were sent unto M^r Cambden, by one D^r John Merrick, then Bishop of Man, certain Collections concerning this Isle of Man, which are now extant, in the end of his matchless *Brittannia*,² in his Treatise de Insulis Britanniae, the whole containing four only sheets of paper in folio, whereof the 3 first was the work written by y^e Monks of y^e Abbey of Russin, in Man, wherein is a Catalogue of y^e Kings of Man, whom the Manksmen at this day, but ignorantly, call the Orry's, their succession and civil dissension amongst themselves, and nothing else; yet this is entituled and passeth for a Chronicle of Man. I probably presume this was not the only work y^e Monks writ concerning this Island, but rather that their endeavours have proved as mortal as their monasteries, and probably both perished together. In the other sheet are such Observations as Bishop Merrick cou'd procure or learn of y^e Manksmen, concerning the Island itself.

I cannot but admire how it was possible, but y^t a Bishop of Man, resident in Man, cou'd by any man (in so little an Island) be so much misled as to inform M^r Cambden of such gross absurdities and visible untruths as these:—

1. That y^e women of this Island, whithersoever they went out of doors, did gird themselves about with the winding-sheet y^t they purpose to be buried in, to show themselves mindful of their mortality.

¹ Institute, pt. 4, c. 69.

² [A copy of the Edition of 1586, of that portion relating to the Isle of Man, is printed in the Manx Society's Series, Vol. XVIII.—Editor.]

2. That there are but 12 Keys of y^e Island.
3. That such women as are condemned to die are sowed in a sack, and flung from a rock into the sea.
4. That there are no beggars within the Island.
5. That none in y^e Island are inclined to robbing or thieving.

Far be it from me here to glance at y^e least thought of accusation, or to lay y^e least aspersion to M^r Cambden himself, whose labours have perennized his honour with an eternal lawrel to all posterity, for he was only guilty of too much credulity, and confiding overmuch in his friend's mistaking and information. John Speed, that writ after him, as a meer exscriptor, without y^e addition of one syllable of his own, either in y^e Abredgment of this Chronocle, or in his Treatise of y^e Monarchy of Great Brittain. Had either Cambden or Speed, both deservedly accounted and acknowledged our ablest and best geographer, who, with so great pains and expences, visited all the parts of every shire in England and Wales, had they, I say, undergone but half a day's voyage into this Isle of Man, and made one month's only perambulation therein, they wou'd have found themselves to become a Samaritan rather than believing themselves than any others' relations, and much less their information, and might have gathered thence solid observation for an ample Treatise, and have eased me of much labour and time, which, it might be, might have been better employed upon a better subject. What deterred or diverted them from writing more is not easily to be conjectured, unless, undervaluing its worth and ignorant of its merit, they presumed, in a prejudicated opinion, y^t y^e discovery thereof wou'd not be sufficiently satisfactory to compensate y^e loss of time and expences requisite to perform y^e same; but therefore it was never held strange y^t y^e uncouth'd shou'd be unkind, and the unprov'd unprais'd.

The omission of both these (by whom this work might have been by many degrees better performed), as being a subject best befitting either of them, it so nearly approximating y^e meridian of Great Britain, was y^e only motive that promoted the divulcation of these my Collections, gathered from ocular observations, and not taken from any misinformed relations of others, and therefore no man can justly censure me y^t I do, *actum agere*, having not dispossessed any man of any part y^t was prepossessed before me.

Notwithstanding I have been herein enabled to discover more than any have or cou'd do, yet I have reason to vale thus low, and y^t most willingly to acknowledge y^t, tho' this be all y^t I as yet do know, yet is it not y^e all y^t may be known of this Isle, myself being conscious of some few defects and omissions, by reason my return was necessitated thence before I could satisfy myself in some particulars, which yet are neither many nor of the most concernment.

At my being there I observed the best decorum I could, not to wade too deep to dive into secrets, for in such petty States it was very requisite to be circumspect where it was dangerous to be inquisitively curious; for such curiosity excitheth jealousy. I found the Earle of Darby's chief officer too wise to prostitute the Island arcana, and to press them had savoured of incivility. I then made my addresses to those that were of a lower class, who I know would sooner, and could better satisfy my curiosity, and so amongst the four-and-twenty, I prevailed with one to make use of his key to open his cabinet; therein I found not only what I so much desired, but I found so much favour and freedom was allowed me to copy thence what I pleased. Whatsoever weakness of defects of the Island was obvious to my observations, they are best known to myself, and I hold it most unworthy and much below me to divulge them of y^t place where I was both civilly receiv'd and hospitably entertained; but as con-

cerning myself in this discovery of the Island, I acknowledge myself as obliged to y^e same laws as of an historian—"Ne quid falsi audeat dicere nec quid veri non audeat," as saith Polibius ; and I shall therefore punctually observe both with all sincerity and integrity. Spe metua procul.

After this Preface to the Reader place the Mapp¹ of the Island of Man, described by Tho^s Durham, A.D. 1595, and is set forth by John Speed in his Theatre of y^e Empire of Great Brittain.

¹ [A reduced copy of this map is given in the Manx Society's Series, Vol. XVIII., with "Speed's History."—Editor.]



THE FIRST BOOK.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE ISLAND OF MAN IN GENERAL.

THOSE islands and petty provinces are justly accounted unfortunate y^t are overpowered and overawed by the most potent princes and states y^t near adjoin unto them. Such hath been the state of Salamina,¹ in old times the Athenians and Magarians; so was y^e Island of Sicily, afterwards the Grecians and Romans; and almost in our days, the kingdom of Naples hath suffered by y^e Spaniards, Frenchmen, and Venetians. This Island of Man is so unfortunately scituate as to be the object of the ambition of the kings of its neighbouring nations,² for the Irish, British, English, Scots, Danes, and Norwegians have every one of them in their several turns possessed it; yea, the greatest and most glorious of our monarchs have not only affected the conquest, but gloried in its subjection. But all these things seem to me really to resemble falkiners and huntsmen y^t took more pleasure in the pursuit and chase of their game, than in taking or killing of the bird or beast they pursued. For though the island was ever accounted an ancient and absolute kingdom,³ yet none of those kings held it any augmentation of their

¹ An Isle of Cyprus, now called Constantia.

² Kings Arthur, Edgar, and Edwin.

³ Cook's Reports, Calvin's Case.

honour to urgent their titles by y^e addition of King of Man, preferring it, as it seems, as a favour for a favour, for all our kings themselves have so disesteemed this title as that, it hath been observed, it was always convey'd in all letters patents by the name of an island, but never of a kingdom.¹ I confess this island is of no great dimension, and therefore of no extraordinary great concernment. Yet I shall demonstrate that it neither is nor ever was reputed to be ignoble much less despicable. For of all y^e islands y^t yield homage to the monarchy of Great Britain (Ireland only excepted), Man is not only the greatest, but hath ever been the most famed and the most respectively honoured above them all. There are but two which, to some, may stand in competition with it, which are the islands of White and Anglisey, but neither of these have anything whereinto they can glory but only of their fertility.

Wherein the latter far exceedeth the former, and is confessed in that to come short of either. For Anglisey was (and worthily) much esteemed by the Romans in times past for breeding of cattle. Insomuch as Columella did not only comend it, but preferred before those of Liguria. Yea, the emperors themselves caused their provision to be for note out of Anglisey to feed upon at their own tables as of the most excellent beef.

Concerning the greatness of these islands, Man for magnitude exceedeth them both.² For if Mr. Harrison may be credited, he will tell you that Man is by a third part greater than Anglisey, and the Isle of Wight to be of the same magnitude with Anglisey. To him John Speed seems to assent, saying the Isle of Wight is in its circumference 60 miles and Anglisey to be 70 miles;³ but the Isle of Man is 82 miles.

¹ Cook's Institutes, part 4, chap. 69, p. 283.—[Edn. 1671.—Editor.]

² Capton, Desc. of England, chap. 6, saith they are all 3 almost of a like bigness.

³ Desert. of Briton, lib. 1, chap. 8, p. 16.

Arthur Hopton saith the circumference of the Isle of Wight is 57 miles, of Anglisey 85, but of Man 91 miles, so as it is easy to observe y^t though these three several writers (all English) have their several opinions differing one from another, yet all consent in one to give the greatest magnitude to y^e Isle of Man. But neither of these in their greatest lustre did ever at any time come near to the glory of the Isle of Man either in the spirituality or temporality.

For y^e Island of Anglisey (the greater of the two) never had the honour to have a bishop, or any spiritual jurisdiction within itself, but in all spiritual cases hath ever been under the Bishop of Bangor. As concerning the temporality, it belongeth, saith Humphrey Loid, even from all antiquity, unto the kingdom of Guineath, y^t is North Wales, whose residence was commonly on the south-west of the Island of Anglisey, at a place call'd Aberfraw, which gave occasion for a long time to stile the kings of North Wales, kings of Aberfraw; as the kings, by the Welch, were named Kings of London, till better instruction, saith Harrison, did bring them to better knowledge.

The Island of Wight hath had kings heretofore (at least so were they called) before Vespasian (the first of the Romans y^t conquered it), y^e last king it had, who was called Arvald, or Arvand as some do write him, being vanquished and killed by Ceadwalla, King of the West Saxons.¹ He adjoined the island unto his own dominion, and since it had never any king; only in y^e 23 year of the reign of King Henry y^e 6th, Henry Beauchamp had an ambition to wear a crown and bear the title of King of Wight;² but he enjoy'd it not long, for the next year he deposed himself,³ and chose rather to bear the title of the first Earle of England than to be King of Wight. As for the spirituality, the Island of Wight hath ever been

¹ About anno 680.

² Camb. Brit., p. 276.

³ Stow's Cron., p. 382.

under the Bishop of Winchester, and did yield obedience to y^e See of Chichester, whereof it is a deanry only.

But y^e Island of Man far surpasseth both these in spirituality and temporality. It hath had (without any interruption) a succession of famous bishops (some of them canonised saints ever since their conversion) for about 1400 years together.

St. Maughauld, the fourth Bishop of Man, of whom you may read more in y^e 3d book of this history, c. 3d, y^e renown of his sanctity was so great, y^t it was divulged of him as y^t y^e famous St. Bridget, one of y^e 3 patrons of Ireland, left her native country of Ireland,¹ then comonly called the Island of Saints, yet was she not veiled by St. Patrick, altho' very familiar with him, and made the shroud wherein he died, but it may be by his comand y^t she came into the Island of Man,² with 3 virgins more in her company, all which received the white veil of virginity at y^e hands of y^e venerable Bishop St. Maughauld,³ as her own nephew, Cogitosus (who lived in her time and wrote her life), and after it seems she wou'd not part from y^t house wherein so holy a man lived, and he had given her such satisfaction and builded a monastery there for herself and y^e 3 virgins y^t accompanied her in this Isle of Man. And there lived, died, and was buried, and after was translated into Duno in Ireland, to be put into y^e same tomb where was buried St. Patrick and St. Columbus. St. Lawrence, Archbishop of Canterbury, and y^e successor of St. Augustin, the Apostle of England,⁴ held this island as the first place to hold a council in both with the Scottish and Irish divines y^t were entangled with the British errors. But, moreover after their kings had conquered, as it seemeth, most of the islands, their bishop's jurisdiction was much enlarged, for all the islands were called

¹ Joselinus, chap. 52.

² The Eng. Martirologue, printed 1608.

³ John Capgrave in her Life.

⁴ Ecc. Hist. of Great Britain, chap. 4, p. 28.

Insulæ Eubonie, of the name of the Island of Man, which was then called Eubonia, as I shall after shew. Yea after y^t, about y^e year 1099, the Bishoprick of Sodor was joined unto the Bishop of Man, and the Bishop of Man bore the title both of Sodor and Man, at which time, for the space of 235 years, y^e Bishop of Man had entire jurisdiction of all y^e Western Isles, being almost 300 in number, and all the islands, Man being included, were called at y^t time Insulæ Sodorences.—*See* Lib. 3, c. 6.

Now, concerning the temporality, the Island of Man hath ever been accounted for an ancient and absolute kingdom, as I have shewed you before, and for such acknowledged by all writers, not one opposing, which neither to the islands of Wight or Anglisey was ever conceded, yea, it was so adjudged in Trin. 40 Queen Eliz.¹

Besides, the kings of Man are very antient, their succession for about 1400 years, as I shall demonstrate unto you hereafter in y^e 2d part of this history, and who can doubt, much less deny it y^t hath read of St. Joseph of Arimathea, who not long after his arrival in England, he fell in some trouble, and was imprisoned in Venedotia² (now North Wales), but was delivered and set at liberty by the power and means of one Mordraius, a king of Man whom he had converted, and dwelt in a city of Man called *Saracta*. And, in all ages, their kings were never accounted of the inferior classis, or of mean repute, for I truly may say, in the words of y^e royal prophet, God hath prevented the kings of Man with his blessings, and hath set a crown of gold upon their heads, yea, the Island of Man is enobled with one royal prerogative not given or granted to any other, y^t we hear of, y^t whosoever is but L^d of Man of right, saith Walsingham, one of our best Chronoclers (and out of him y^e. Lord Cook), may not only call himself

¹ Cook, Instit. pt. 4.

² Antiq. of Glastonbury, cited in ye Ecc. Hist. of Great Britain, cap. 25.

king, but may cause himself to be crown'd with a crown of gold.

Besides, antiquity hath honoured the Isle of Man with a rich coat of arms, as I shall shew you hereafter, which was never permitted to the isle of Wight or Anglisey.

Now, to shew you in what esteem the kings of Man were reputed by the neighbouring kings and princes, observe, first, how they renown'd King Arthur (accounted one of the nine worthy, and of the Christian Triplicity y^e Prince Person) after the Conquest of the Isle of Man were admitted into the society and fellowship of the Knights of his Round Table.¹

Our glorious King Edgar,² who styled himself *Omnium Regnum Insularum circumjacentium Imperator et Dom.*, yet admitted none of the kings of the islands into that royal boat wherein eight kings rowed and himself steered the helm (to express the supremacy he had over them), rowed in this manner to shew himself to be *rex soli and sali*. But he saith out of Malmsbury,³ there were only 5 kings y^t rowed, but only Macon, king of Man, whom King Edgar preferred to y^e 3d oar, and therefore he gave him precedency over 5 of the other kings.

But you may observe in S^r H. Spelman another note of the great respect this King Edgar shewed unto this Macon, King of Man, whom S^r H. Spelman, turning his name into Latin, calleth him *Macusius*, and in some places *Macuti*, for in the famous charter King Edgar made unto the Abbey of Glassenbury, in y^e 12th year of his reign,⁴ there subscribed after the king the queen and her son, then the king of Scots, *next to him King Macon*, after him the archbishop of Can-

¹ About anno 520. Hardinge Chron. chap. 72, p. 54.

² The Charter of y^e Abbey of Malmsbury, Camden, page 605.

³ But Sr. H. Spelman out of Wm. of Malmsbury, saith he was *Orbis Britanii Dominus*. This was, saith Cambden, about the year 960.

⁴ Anno 971.

terbury and York, and after them 21 bishops, abbots, dukes, etc.

But King Macon received yet a greater honour from King Edgar, for King Edgar had 3600 ships of war to sail round every year about this whole island, and to free every part of his dominions from rovers and pirates. Of all these King Edgar made King Macon his admiral; and therefore, in y^e charter above mentioned, and wheresoever S^r H. Spelman hath in any place made mention of him, he giveth him the title of Archiperata to King Edgar; but let not the reader be abused by the ignorance of Rider, who maketh the word Archiperata to signify an arch-pirate, for he was the persecutor of pirates. But S^r H. Spelman more truly and more particularly saith, it signifieth a *Prince of Seamen*,¹ and one that is perfect of all the sea, and therefore it may be Macon was the first king of Man y^t bear in a shield of gold a ship in her ruff-sables, the antient arms of the Isle of Man, to express his employment as Admiral at Sea for King Edgar. Mr. Cambden saith, he hath seen a seal of King of Man, which was a ship with sails hoised up, and this title in y^e circumference, *Rex Maniæ et Insularum*.² Wherefore, in every respect this seal was the seal of Macon, for, saith Stow, and others also, y^t Macon was not only King of Man, but of many other islands also; and so saith Cambden, *Britannia*, p. 605. About y^e 24th year of our king Henry y^e 2d, Pope Alexander y^e 3d, who succeeded Pope Adrian the fourth, an English man, whose name was Shakespear and not Breakspeare (as John Speed writeth), sent y^e Cardinal Vivianus, cardinal of St. Stephen, in Mount Callius, his legate a latere, into Scotland, and thence taking his journey into Ireland, he landed in the Isle of Man, where he was honourably entertained by Guthred, King of Man.

¹ *Princeps Nautarum Marium prefectus.*

² [A copy of the seal of Harald, King of Man, 1245, with this bearing, is given in Oswald's "*Vestigia*," *Manx Society*, Vol. v.—Editor.]

Yea, saith J. Brompton, most honourably of the King, Clergy, and People of Man, and abode there from the nativity of our Saviour untill after his Epiphany.

Neither did the neighbouring kings or princes disdain their alliance, for y^e aforesaid Godred, whom Roger Hoveden called Guthred, the son of Olave, married Phingola, the daughter of Maclothen, the son of Macartac, King of Ireland, and a daughter of his called Africa was married to y^e renowned John Cursy, Earle of Ulster, that Sampson of Ireland, of whose stupendous and valorous acts the histories of Ireland do make ample relations.

Harrold, King of Man, the grandchild of the s^d Guthred, anno 1242, as saith the *Chronocle of Man*, but more truly saith Holinghead, ano 1247, married the daughter of Hacco, King of Norway, for he stayed only two years with y^e king ; and in ano 1249, Harrold and his wife with others were unfortunately shipwrack'd and drown'd upon the coast of SCOTLAND in their return homewards. All antiquity speak honourably of this island and testify their valour, and therefore Mercator and Philip Cluverius had good warrant to say y^t Man was Incolis quondam validissima, and for the repute of their prowess they have been always respected and courted by all y^e adjacent neighbourhood. Vaodiccia (by Dion Cassius called Bundusia or Bonducia, and by some Branducia, by Tacitus Boaditia), daughter to the famous Arviragus (a masculine virgin), to return her deflaration by the Romans being overpowered by them. In Britanny she recruited herself with soldiers in the Isle of Man,¹ and by their assistance took and burnt Epiake in Galloway, and had like to have routed Petilius and his Roman legions by night.

They assisted Corbred and y^e Picts against the Romans under Ostorius. So did they assist the widow of Prasitagus, king of y^e Icons, and Brennius, whom Buchanan calleth Brem,

¹ Hect. Boetius, History of Scot., 4, p. 59.

and saith he was Regulus Euboniæ,¹ tho' Hector Boethis² pleaseth only to call him Thane of Man.

With a band of soldiers out of the Isle of Man, assisted Aydan, King of Scotland, against King Brude and his Picts, altho' himself was killed in the battle, yet Aydan, the King of Scotland, got y^e victory of the Picts. The aforementioned Guthred, King of Man, in the 3d year of his reign, was crowned king in Dublin, and overthrew Osibele, the half-brother to Murcard, King of Ireland, with his 3000 men, and they also subdued a great part of Leinster.

The same Guthred was likewise sent for by Lawrence,³ the Archbishop of Dublin, and Rodorick, King of Conaught, to assist 'em against the Earl of Pembroke and y^e English men who besieged them, unto whose aid he brought 30 ships full of fraught, saith Stanihurst, with warlike soldiers, and blocked up the haven of Dublin. I should too much press upon the reader's patience to speak of their acts in Anglisey,⁴ against the King of North Wales, or their conquests, of their conquests of their neighbouring islands called Hebrides or Western Islands,⁵ and y^t long before y^e coming of the Northwegians, and therefore I remit you to read them in their several places in y^e 2nd Book of this History.

Yea, y^t regard of this island's situation hath only been y^e object of y^e enemies and y^e solicitous care of one of our greatest and politest kings. For Don John de Austria had y^e Isle of Man, if it were surprised, the fittest place from thence to invade y^e west and south borders of Scotland, yea, into England, to make inroads either into Cumberland, Lancashire, Cheshire, or any part of North Wales. As also the north-east parts of Ireland, and Terrerius Pedemontanus

¹ About anno 610.

² Hect. Boet., l. 4, p. 50.

³ About the year 1171.

⁴ About anno 1577.

⁵ The Hist. of y^e Death of Mary, Queen of Scotland, by Mr. Strangnape.

apprehended strongly in his appendix to the History of Scotland, p. 394.

Which our king, Henry y^e 8th, seriously and with great jealousy reflected upon, for in y^e League¹ he made with Charles y^e 5th, in y^e 7th Article agreed upon, both parts hath these words, y^t if y^e enemy, the French king, shou'd fall on any of his islands, or ye Isle of Man in particular, etc., the Emperor shall send aid for such a number of foot as can be paid for 700 crowns a day.² This setteth forth the constant loyalty of the Manksmen in an eminent degree, y^t we read not in any age that ever they attempted to infest or to make any depredations upon any part of England. Yea, their loyalty hath much demonstrated itself in its dutiful perseverance to the late King Charles 1st, for when all his three kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland had cast off their allegiance and openly rebelled against him, this Island of Man not only persisted in its obedience unto him, but, with its loyal lord in person, assisted his son, our now sacred Sovereign, with a considerable supply.

This Island of Man as it hath been observed to have assisted, so have they, in like manner, sheltered, fostered, and courteously entertained both kings and princes from all neighbouring parts y^t were distressed or any way necessitated, yet never were they found to betray or fault in the trust y^t any of them had reposed in them. Octavius,³ y^e son of Octavius, King of y^e Britons, being driven out by y^e Romans, fled into y^e Isle of Man, and remained concealed by them certain years; from thence he was conveyed into France,⁴ and after returned into Britany, and was by y^e Britons received for their king.

After y^e death of Fethelmacus, King of Scotland, Romacus succeeded. He had an intention to make away Eugenius and

¹ Anno 1541.

² History of King Henry VIII., p. 491.

³ Holinshead's Cron. of Scotland, p. 85, c. 93.

⁴ H. Boetius, l. 6, 108.

Ethodius (some write him Euodius), the sons of Fincormacus, being the right heirs to the crown. Some of their trusty friends secretly convey'd them into Westmoreland, and from thence into the Isle of Man, where they remained (expecting better times) for the space of nine years during y^e reigns of 3 kings—Romacus, Augustianus, Fethelmacus. After the death of these,¹ the nobles and comons of the Scottish nation sent into the Isle of Man for Eugenius, and they crownd him king. But y^t learning and liberal arts were there professed and taught, and which from all antiquity have there eminently flourished, no man can deny. Hector Boetius saith “Man was the fountain of all honesty, erudition, and learning;” others of the Scottish nation held it the mansion of y^e muses, and y^e royal academy for the bringing up of the heirs apparent of the Scottish Crown (as I shall shew presently), and let not seem to any to be hyperbolically spoken.

To me they seem to be irrational, y^t yield not their assent, for not sceptically but confidently I hold it, not as a verisimilitude only, but for an absolute verity, that these famous learned Druids were here from the same antiquity, and as numerous as ever they were in Anglissey, the distance betwixt this and y^t Island being only at y^t day but half a day's sailing by sea, but if you have faith enough to believe Polydore Virgil in those days, you needed not say above half an hour, as I shall shew you in the sequel; but, besides, Man being the more remote Island of the two, was much more solitary seated, and therefore was much more fit for such contemplatives. Modern writers,² therefore, style it *Insula Druidum* and *Sedes Druidum*, not that they had no other residence in any other part elsewhere as our Vitruvius misconstrued. Hector Boetius averreth y^t Man was the principal Mansion Seat of y^e Druids, where their chief Bishop had his residence, and had his Ball of Fire there

¹ About anno 357.

² Sir Inigo Jones his Stoneheng restored, p. 6.

carried before him ; and Cambden calleth it y^e Most Noble and Antient Seat of y^e Druids ; whom Harrison saith it was y^e prime Seat of y^e Druids ; Raphael Holinshead affirmeth the Druids to have been in Man even from y^e beginning. The Ecclesiastical History of Great Britain saith it was y^e chief seat of y^e Druids. Let not the reader figure to himself y^t y^e Learned Druids were only and meerly divines ; Pliny, and our grand Architect¹ do stile them y^e Bishops and Clergy of y^t Age, for they not only exerted themselves but taught others both Divine and human Learning, yea even all Arts and Sciences ; they acknowledged and adored one God in a Tri-Unity, altho' mixt with many superstitions. By the names of Tautates, Hesus, and Tamires, they held the soul of man to be immortal ; but, besides configurations of the planets, and by consequence of whatsoever belonged to any part of astronomy, Cicero and Tacitus tell us that they likewise taught the proprieties and natures of things, which includeth animals, vegetables, and minerals, and therefore whatsoever also belonging is unto natural magick. But, moreover, these Druids were practised in civil government, executed judicature, decided controversies, interdicting persons and corporations, y^t wou'd not acquiesce in any sentence they gave, etc., as shall be farther insisted on hereafter. What marvel, then, if to such gifted men, and their scholars after them, were sent y^e sons of y^e neighbouring Nations to be brought up both in Religion and all Arts and Sciences, and not only before our Bless'd Sav^r's Incarnation, but for many ages after. But before I demonstrate this, I desire y^e reader not to be misled by the Scottish writers, for it is a meer fiction y^t Finanus, their 10th King of Scotland, should send these Druids into y^e Island of Man, which Bucanon doth not acknowledge, and therefore with reason he taxeth Hector Boetius for his much credulity in reciting many stories out of

¹ Sir Inigo Jones, Descr. of Stoneheng, p. 3.

incredulous authors, but more absurdly in y^e incogitancy and assertion of Ralph Holinshead, who will needs give y^e honour to this Finanus, to have sent these Druids at first into Anglisey, whereas all antiquity acknowledgeth them to have been in both y^e Islands long before—yea, himself confessed in another place y^t they had been in Man from y^e beginning, as I noted before. Moreover this Finanus, y^e Son of Josina, reigned in Scotland Anno Mundi 3834, and before our Saviour's Birth 137 years. But the Druids' institution we are showed by Privitus was about An. Mun. 3322, full four hundred and twelve years before Finanus began to reign.¹

Now these Druids were so antiently seated in Brittany, as Cesar and Buchanan say it is doubted whether the Gauls had their Instructions from y^e Druids in Britain or y^e Britons from y^e Gauls, but Vitus is confident that the Gauls were fought by the Britons, and so doth Rhelin in y^e history of the World. Now to demonstrate y^e great repute this Island had but their Learning and Discipline to be esteemed by the Scottish Kings in all ages (as I observed before), I shall here insert some few of many particulars, least this chapter grow too great, which I have collected out of their own historgraphers both before and since our Saviour's Birth. Gillus Hespurius,² son of Eurnus, y^e first usurping y^t crown, having, by treachery, caused the two sons of Durstius (being twins and contending w^{ch} of 'em shou'd reign), the one to kill y^e other,³ but not conceiving himself to be safe so long as y^e three sons of Dothan (one of the twins were living), and at y^t time, saith Hector Boetius, residing in y^e Isle of Man, to be brought up and taught there. Gillus himself, therefore, undertook a voyage thither, feigning affection, and pretending their more

¹ Hist. Brit. Insul., nota 21, anno Christi 1013. See y^e Ecclesiastical Hist. of Great Britain, Age 1, c. 12, 11, 1, p. 241, who affirmeth y^e same.

² Buchanan de Rebus Scoticis, l. 4, p. 107.

³ Anno ante Christum 79.

court-like education. By these means he got Lismore, the eldest, being but twelve years of age, and Cormacus, two years younger, into his hands. Ederus, the youngest, being sick, and but seven years old, escaped. The two eldest, in Scotland, were murdered in their tutor's armes. Ederus, the youngest, was after crown'd king of Scotland. Dardanus, for his tall stature called y^e Great (nephew to King Mecellan), for three years had y^e repute of a good king, after became odious for his tyranny. He sent a servant of his, called Carmonach, to murder the three sons of Corbredus (Corbaid, Tulcan, and Breck), remaining in y^e Isle of Man under discipline. Corbaid was after crowned king, and sur-named Gald,¹ because he had been brought up with Voadá, the Queen of y^e Britons, for, saith Hector, y^e *Scots unto this day give y^e name of Gald unto those of their own Country y^t have travailed and learned many languages*, and courtliness, and the manners of other countries. Eugenius y^e 4th, the son of Aydanus sent three of his own sons, Fergard or Fercard, Fiacre, and Donald, into y^e Isle of Man, to be brought up by Conanus, Bishop of Man, whom y^e Scottish historiographers and our Holinshead ignorantly stile Bishop of Sodor. Two of these, Fergard and Donald, were crowned kings, one succeeding the other; but Fiacre refused the crown, and became an ermit.²

Conranus (of some called Gonranus)³ took order y^t y^e 3 sons of his brother Congal (Eugenius y^e 3d, Congallus y^e 2d, and Kennacelus y^e first) should be brought up in the Isle of Man (saith Hector) under y^e governance of certain wise instructors and schoolmasters, to be trained in learning and virtuous discipline, according to an antient ordinance thereof made and enacted: of these let this suffice.

¹ Cor. Tacitus calleth him Galgacus. See y^e Additions of Polycron. c. 26, y^t Gald came of Gacels, y^t spake many languages.

² Hect. Boet., l. 9, p. 173. ³ Anno 501, Hect. Boet. 515, R. Holinshead.

Wherefore, let not this sister of ours be esteemed because she is little, in est sua gratia parvis, yea, so antiently ours, so often purchased by us, and so caressed by our kings, as a kingdom immediate spectans ad coronam Angliæ, as saith one of our best historians,¹ and therefore, as he much resented it, conceiv'd it as an injury offered unto this Island by King Edward y^e 2d in undervaluing it so much as to pass it by letters-patents as a lordship only (it being an antient kingdom), and to be conferred upon so mean a man as Piers Gaveston to be. But ours he is, tho' not as a part of the body of England, because separated by y^e sea, and is a kingdom of itself, and the king's writ² runs not thither, to speak in our law language, yet is it ours in y^e same manner as was Normand, y^e Gascoigne, Anjou, etc., which were as a part of the realm by tenure, yea, parcel of y^e demesnes of the Crown of England, so as howsoever the Manksmen be born in another climate and kingdom, yet are they natural subjects born within the sea of England, and for y^t cause it is adjudged by our laws y^t they are capable and inheritable of lands in England as freely as ourselves,³ for by the statute 24th of King Edw^d y^e 3d, comonly called the Statute de natis ultra mare, a man born out of England, so as it be within the limits of y^e king's obedience beyond y^e seas, is no alien in account, but a subject to the king.

Wherefore, let me intreat and impetrate thus much favour of these y^t have not seen, yet censured this Island, y^t they wou'd vouchsafe the perusal of y^t which is here written of it, whereby their own judgment, I doubt not, will be enabled to take y^e true altitude and degree of this Island's merits and worth, and then I perceive they will soon recant, and acknowledge the errors and misconceit which ignorance, as a prejudicate opinion, had begotten in them, and at length approve of

¹ Walsingham, p. 360.

² Calvin's Case, Cook's Reports.

³ Holin. Hist. of Scot., p. 80.

Magnus, king of Norway's judgment, who, being threaten'd by a vision of St. Olave, relinquish'd his kingdom and betook himself to a sea voyage ; and having conquered the Orcades¹ and Hebrides, at last arriv'd in y^e worst (being so much northward) part of Man, called the Island of St. Patrick, which to him seem'd so goodly and beautiful, y^t disesteeming all y^e rest in regard of that, he there seated himself, and build'd divers fortresses, and compelled the neighbouring Galloways to cut down wood to furnish him with materials for the building of them, which the monks of Russin say did bear his name to their times.

What I have hitherto said of this Island hath been only in general ; there are other particulars much more taking, and do set her forth to be more considerable and deserving, and which invited all y^e neighbouring kings, besides her title, to court her.

1. For abounding in cattle, fish, and corn,² her soil is not surcharged, is sufficiently enabled to afford her inhabitants all what is requisitely necessary for the maintenance of man, within Man itself, either for meat, drink, or clothing ; yea, if Wm. Harrison's testimony³ may be credited, Man is very near equal to Anglisey in all comodities.

2. It is so strongly fortified, both by nature, art politick, vigilancy, as y^t I am persuaded, if y^t son⁴ and sun of Man had not set so soon, or had been there in person to oppose, I say, had not y^e Fall of the great Oak incus'd a precedent Terror, which caus'd y^e under shrubs to tremble, the then state of y^e Common Wealth of England had not entered this Island so calmly, and easily possess'd it, without noise.

3. It hath divers havens, situated commodiously on both sides of the Island, for trade and traffick.

4. It hath a most civil government, with speedy justice without delay, or any, the least expense.

¹ Cron. of Man, p. 84.

² Holinshead's History of y^e World, p. 316.

³ Description of Brit., p. i. c. 8, p. 16.

⁴ James, Earl of Derby, late Lord of Man.

5. Besides, it hath most laudable Laws and Customs,¹ yea such as our best and greatest Justinian of our times hath publicly given this encomium of them, y^t the Island of Man hath such laws, y^e like whereof are not to be found in any other places.

¹ Cook's Institute, part iv. c. 69, p. 284.

CHAPTER II.

OF SEVERAL NAMES IMPOSED BY ANTIENT WRITERS UPON

Y^E ISLAND OF MAN.

DIVERS names by divers authors have been given to this island, but if well observed the later are observ'd to be deriv'd from the more antient Julius Cæsar, and y^e Romans after him called it Mona, and some corruptly writ it Monna; yet as I conjecture neither Julius Cæsar nor any of y^e Romans originally gave y^t name unto this island, but rather receiv'd it from y^e Gauls and Britons, and was at first impos'd by some more antient Greeks y^t might pass out of Ireland by it into y^e northern part of Britony, now called Scotland, and they might call it Mona of novos solus, as being a little island seated solitary in the midst betwixt y^e 4 neighbouring nations, as I shall demonstrate in the sequel.

Cornelius Tacitus,¹ and after him Hector Boetius,² Bucanon, Philip Cluvernus, ascribe the name of Mona unto the Island of Anglisey, being misled by the British name of Anglisey, which is Mon and Yermon (y^e Island of Mon), and thence y^e Saxons called y^t Island Monea, but Camden, Bishop Usher, Humphrey Loyd, Harrison, Polycronicon, Mercator, P. Holins, Speed, and all learned and late writers, unanimously assent in one y^t Mona Cæsarie is properly the Isle of Man. But Mona Taciti belongeth to Anglisey. Ptolemy, more to purpose and to distinguish Mon from Mona, calleth the Island of Man Moncida,³ or Monaida, or Monada, as one

¹ Anal. l. 14.

² Hect. Boet. Hist. Scot. l. 1, de rebus Scotticis.

³ British Isles, p. 203, l. 4, c. 16.

would say (by Mr. Cambden's interpretation) Moneitha, y^t is the more remoted Mona.

Of Mona and Moneitha, by corruption in Pliny his time it came to be called Monaibia.

From Monaibia in Orosius and V. Bede's age it was called Monavia, which name was also given to y^e Island of Anglisey, therefore V. Bede, to distinguish the one from the other, calleth Anglisey Monavia Prior, and this Island of Man Monavia Secunda, so as this Island of Man in former ages hath ever retained a proximity of name, as well as of situation, with Anglisey. The name is written amiss, and called Menavia, see Cam. Brit. p. 203. Moreover, besides all these, this island, even from all antiquity, hath had y^e name of Eubonia¹ given unto it, for so was it called by y^e old Britons, and by Ninius y^t goeth under y^e name of Guildas, as also when King Edwin conquered it, yea and retained y^e name very long, even to y^e reign of King Richard y^e 2d, for in y^e 17th year of his reign² saith Walsingham it was sold by W^m, the son of W^m, Earl of Salisbury y^t had conquered it from the Scots, unto W^m le Scroop, Earle of Wiltshire, and Treasurer of England, by the name of Eubonia. Moreover, when y^e Island of Man was called Eubonia, all y^e Western Isles were called Eubonia, as I shall shew you hereafter.

The last and longest name, and which continueth unto this day is Mannia, which I find to be very antient, even above 300 years ago, before either Guildas or any other British writers before him, and tho' our Walsingham, who wrote in King Ric^d. y^e 2d's reign,³ as above do call it by the name of Eubonia, yet I find y^t 145 years before y^t in y^e 34 year of King Henry y^e 3d,⁴ sent letters patents to Arrolld or rather Harrold, whom he stileth King of Man, licensing him to

¹ See Bede, de rebus Scoticia, l. 1, p. 25.

² Anno Dom. 1393.

³ About Anno 1249.

⁴ Cook's Inst. part 14, c. 69, p. 284.

come into England, etc., where it had y^e name of Man diversopine diversely. The Manksmen have a tradition y^t at their coming of their apostle St. Patrick,¹ they had a king whom they call Manna-Man-Maclea, him they held to have been the first y^t did conquer them, and y^t y^e Island of him took y^e name of Man, and hath ever since retained it unto this day. Polydore Virgil supposeth the name of this Man, of the word Mona (*Mutatione unius literæ manam vocant*).

If it were lawful for me to take y^e same liberty to myself, I should suppose y^e Man might come of Maune,² which was one of St. Patrick's names, before he took upon him the name of Patricius, for I do not find the name of Man given to the Island but at his being there; and Joselinus, in the life of St. Patrick, ch. 92, gives it the name of Eubonia and of Man, but I had rather vaile to the Manksmen's tradition than to be censured as obstinate. For in some kind a tradition may challenge y^e title of an authority, whereas a mere conjecture may well gain y^e repute of a substity, but is not always enabled to enforce a solid assent as unto a verity.

Howsoever, this island at this day is in Latin called Mannia, by the Islanders Manning, by the Englishmen Man. The inhabitants by us are called Manksmen, in y^e British language is called Menaw by Guildas and Ninius Manan.

¹ Anno Chr. 447.

² Sr. Henry Spelman, p. 50, saith his name was Maun.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE LENGTH, BREADTH, AND SITUATION OF Y^R
ISLAND OF MAN.

THERE are many much mistaken herein ; some seem to contract it too much ; some extend it too long ; but I find none to have erred so much as the Scots,¹ from whom, in all probability, we have reason to have expected the truest information, but they say the Island of Man is but only 24 miles long and 18 miles broad, and are mistaken in both, for thereby they should make within a fourth part the Island to be as broad as it is long. Whereas later dimensions have found it to be far otherwise, for y^e length exceedeth 3 times y^e breadth, all agreeing the form of the Island to be long and narrow. Those y^t have best informed us are Cambden, P. Helens, Arthur Hopton, John Spéed,² for they found y^t Manksmen's relation to agree with theirs y^t from Cransten Village in y^e north, unto y^e Mull Hills in the south, it striketh itself in length above 28 or 29, if not 30 miles ; y^e breadth from Douglas Point unto Peeltown the distance is scarce 9 miles ; for y^e Manksmen account y^e distance between these 2 towns, Douglas and Peel, to be only 8 miles. It is true y^t more northward the Island is somewhat broader, yet not fully of Mr. Cambden's account, who will have y^e Island here 15 miles broad ; and much more is Mr. Maxwel mistaken, who maketh the Island to be 18 miles broad. Now, suppose a medium be chosen : If the middle betwixt 8, which is y^e least breadth of the Island, and 18 y^e greatest, whereof I

¹ Buchanan de rebus Scoticii, l. 1, p. 26. ² Abr. c. 43, British Isles, p. 203.

will take as little as cannot be denied, which is 12, now multiply 29, w^{ch} is agreed upon by all to be the length, by 12, which I suppose is y^e breadth, and they make *only* 87 square miles in the Island.

The whole circumference by John Speed is 82 miles, by Arthur Hopton 91 miles. I will not contend with either, as little concordance do I find amongst geographers as historiographers.

Touching y^e elevation of y^e Pole :¹ John Speed not mentioning anything at all. Mercator, in his Atlas, saith the Island of Man standeth in 15 degrees of longitude, and 55 or 56 degrees of latitude. Mr. Harrison gives 16 degrees of longitude, and 40 minutes, in latitude 53 degrees and 30 minutes. Hector Boetius, omitting y^e longitude, saith y^t in latitude it standeth in about 57 degrees 0 minutes. John Tapin his Seaman's Calender, and Thos. Sterne's correction, placeth Man in 19 degrees of England, and in 34 degrees and 51 minutes of latitude. The former counting every degree 60 miles, altho' y^t Hector Boetius reckoneth to every degree 62 miles and one half.

Concerning y^e scituation of Man, I have not faith enough to assent to Polydore Virgil, who affirmeth for truth a strange wonder, so saith he what time can do, this Island of Man is now remoted from land 25 miles space, which in old time was scarce one mile distant from Anglisey, and joined unto Wales ; but I observe as great, if not a greater absurdity, in Hector Boetius, who, in his History of Scotland, maketh no distinction at all betwixt y^e 2 Islands of Man and Anglisey, but seemeth to seat them, not only to be contiguous, but also to be continuous y^e one unto y^e other ; for in all his history being misled by Tacitus, as I suppose, nameth them both by the only name of Mona, not once naming Anglisey alone, by any name in any part of y^t work ; and whatsoever Paulus

¹ R. Lyon's History of y^e Barbadoes, p. 62.

Suetonius, in y^e reign of Nero, Aulus Plantius, and Julius Agricola, in the time of Vespasian, or any of the Romans, acted in Anglisey, he confidently occurreth to be done in his Mona, which he always calleth Man. Paulus Jovius supposeth these two Islands to have been joind together, and so to the Continent of England,¹ but cut off by the working of y^e waves of y^e ocean, as Cisely,² and some suppose betwixt Dover and Calais, etc. Howsoever, at this day it is far seated in the main sea, at least 25 miles from any part of England or Wales.

Ranolf, Monk of Chester (out of Guildas), saith neatly, y^t it is seated in y^e navel of the sea, and standeth in the very midst, as if it were the center of all the great kings of Great Britain do command, as y^e heart of a man is seated in y^e midst of his body, the comparison will hold very fitly, for the heart of a man is encompassed round about in a bag of water, which bag is called y^e pericardium, and therefore the heart of man may truly be called the Isle of Man. This liquid humour the naturalists and anatomists do say y^t God did place about y^e heart to y^e end it might temper y^e excessive heat of y^e heart, which otherwise it wou'd acquire by reason of its perpetual motion; and one of the eminent anatomists saith he hath observed y^t this liquid humour is to be found both in the living and in y^e dead, which y^t eagle-eyed Evangelist St. John curiously observed, when our Bles^d. Saviour's side was opened by Longinus, or as others name him Legorius.

His spear, after his Passion, there issued out water and blood, thereby to demonstrate y^t he was truly dead, for the pericardium yielded the water, and the heart being pierced, streamed out y^e blood. St. Cyprian saith his heart was wounded y^t he might let out all his moisture in his body, and all his blood residing in his heart, and reserve nothing to himself.

¹ See Camb. Br. pp. 346, 347.

² So Sicily from Valy, as saith Seneca.

This Island of Man being thus as the center point of a circle is comodiously seated for the venting, if it were stored, as it might be, of all sorts of manufactories and merchandizes to every part of its circumference, for it standeth in St. George's Channel, equally distant on the north from Galloway in Scotland; from the province of Ulster in Ireland on the east; from the south of Cumberland and the north part of Lancashire, on the south from the Island of Anglisey. Neither is y^e voyage long or far to France or Spain itself.

But yet Mathew Paris saith it is placed nearer England than any other, altho' Guiraldus Cambrensis saith, Man was so equally distant from England and Ireland, as y^t there arose a controversy in old times¹ whether of the 2 countries it shou'd appertain unto, and the controversy was thus taken up, forasmuch as this Island of Man fostered venomous toads and other worms, brought over thither for trial, it was adjudged by a common censure and doom to belong unto Britain.

Hereby it is inferred y^t if the Isle of Man had not fostered them it had belonged unto Ireland, the censure therefore was doomed of the dependancy of the Isle of Man (unto whether continent), not by the proximity but by the immunity. So large a latitude of reputation had the Irish sanctified soil acquired in those days, as y^t even Islands far more remote than Man, if they enjoyed y^t privilege, were held obliged to acknowledge their homage unto it, for Hector Boetius saith the Orkney freed Islands because from venomous worms was therefore appendant unto Ireland. I wonder no Irish writers lay claim to y^e Island of Guernsey, which braggs of the same immunity, and probably was endowed therewith by the prayers of St. Patrick; for Probus, saith St. Patrick, was commanded by Pope Celestin the First to preach in Normandy as he went into Ireland, unto whose continent the

¹ Anno 1151.

Island of Guernsey, wth Jarsey, are nearly contiguous and conterminate. I shall, if Spain will assert they shall lay claim to y^e Balcares Islands, now called Majorca and Minorca, yea, and to their neighbouring Ebasus, Creek, or any other, so they lay no claim to our Barbadoes¹ and Melita, now Malta, for Tertullian seemeth to insinuate y^t it had the infnity from St. Paul ever since he shook of y^e viper into y^e fire that had fastened itself upon his hand. But Sylvester Geraldus (a fisherman), I say, an Irishman of the family of the Geraldines, but being born in Wales, which is called Cambria, he was thence called Cambrensis, is noted of many not to omit any occasion offered to elevate y^e honour of the Irish, and y^t his own country, yet here he seemeth not to be clear sighted for himself, for y^e doom he produceth tacitly doth confess that there were no toads or venomous worms in Man before, and therefore some were brought to make y^e trial ; but, besides, I observe that those y^t were brought in did not leave any of their breed behind them, for the Manksmen glory even at this day with Ireland in y^e immunity not only from toads, snakes, and other venomous creatures, but also from all noxious and poison beasts. Here I hold myself obliged to testify a truth, y^t during my abode in y^e Island, I did neither hear nor see any to be in any part of the Island, excepting only spiders, which Ireland also hath, but without venom, and whether those of Man were of the same quality innoxious or no, I made no experiment. Besides, Joselinus,² who lived in the same time with Giraldus, testifieth the Manksmen's immunity to be the same with y^t of Ireland ; for, saith he, after St. Patrick had precipitated all y^e venomous beasts in Ireland from a high rock into y^e sea, he turned his face towards the Island of Man, and all y^e other Islands

¹ Lyon's History of y^e Barbadoes, p. 62.

² In vita Patricii, c. 170. Flor. saith St. Hillarius, in y^e Island Galinirpau, y^e Sea of Toscana, precipitated all y^e serpents there from a high rock into y^e sea.

which had been converted by him, he blessed and prayed for them, and freed them from all venomous and creeping creatures. But, moreover, if these toads which were imported thither for the trial had sympathis'd with the soil, y^e toads are known to be creatures not suddenly or easily exterminated, for out of the corruption of one dead and putrified another toad will be generated; yea, some curious naturalists have observed y^t tho' you burn a toad to ashes, not only one, but, as another saith, a multiparous production of y^e same species will be produced if it be exposed subio to the wind and weather for a convenient time; and why not, seeing experience attesteth in y^e putrification of one serpent many hundred serpents will breed out thence, and every one will be as big as y^e first;¹ yet, with my peruser's permission, I wou'd willingly insert one more remarkable note, out of y^e antient writer Joselinus, y^t certain inhabitants of some Islands converted by St. Patrick's preaching, having forsaken the Law of God, left unto them by him, were alienated from the faith, backsliding, and therefore unto this day are deprived of this prerogative and special gift of God, which other places which persevered do still enjoy thro' his prayers; verily it is much to be feared, lest not only the Isle of Man,² but Ireland also, being both of them fallen from y^t Faith which St. Patrick preached, lose not at last this excellent immunity, seeing in our days never there known before the plague y^e most contagious poyson hath for many years prevailed in many places of y^t Island, to the almost depopulating not only of Limerick, but of Dublin itself; and a great toad is acknowledged to have been seen in their metropolitan city not many years since, a prodrome premonstrating and presaging much more ominous calamities than did that frog found in y^e meadows of Waterford in our King Henry

¹ John French, of y^e Art of Distillation, l. 5, p. 121.

² Anno 1651.

y^e 2^d's reign, which the Irish writers say foreshowed their following fate to be conquered by the English.¹

But more strange effects have followed the toad's apparition—viz., the entire conquest of the whole Island, and their transplantation by Oliver Cromwel, and may it end here, but more and worse may be still feared; even in time an extirpation; for their Apostle's praying may seem to prophecy when he besought God with whom he was powerful, y^t no Irish man might be then living when Antichrist should come. This was long since published by Ranulf,² Monk of Chester, and since by one³ of y^e Island itself.

¹ Stanihurst. Desertation of Ireland, c. 2, p. 41.

² Polycron, l. 5, c. 4.

³ Fitaimons of y^e West, p. 5, c. 4, p. 110.

CHAPTER IV.

OF THE ISLAND OF MAN IN PARTICULAR. HOW THE ISLAND
IS DIVIDED.

FOR several respects the Island of Man hath several divisions, which I shall divide into several partitions, which is 3 for the reader's better understanding. 1. The general division of y^e whole Island. 2. The subdivision of the general division, w^{ch} concerns the civil or political government thereof. 3. I call this the legal division, as only concerning the Deemsters y^e Judges in the Isle. Concerning the division of the Island in general, y^e whole Island is divided into 17 parts. W^m. Harison herein is much amiss informed, who nominates 19. Yea, you may observe that he makes Man to have near as many parts as they then had towns. But when and by whom this division was so made, neither cou'd the Mankmen or their papers inform me, nor can I the reader; wherefore I am compelled to rove conjecturally (yet with great probability), and to believe y^t St. Patrick, their apostle, returning out of England towards Ireland (and taking this Island of Man amongst the rest in his way) having 30 learned and grave priests with him, whereof Germanus was one, whom St. Patrick made Bishop of Man, and under him he might place 16 other clergymen, who might divide the Island into as many parts or parcels, each one in his part to teach, preach, and instruct these new converts in y^e Christian religion. But whosoever he was y^t settled this division, I confidently am persuaded (yet my opinion shall vail to any y^t shall produce better demonstration) y^t he was some Bishop

or of y^e Clergy in those days who had the sole government of the whole Island.

If we may give credit to the Manksmen's tradition, y^t cantonized it into 17 shares, which they did not call shires as we do, but they called them Kirks as the Scots do their churches and chapels, which indeed was a denomination befitting a clergyman, and M^t. Chaloner seems to side with me, saying there were antiently a multiplicity of chapels in this Island, which generally in all other places as well as here were the original of parish churches. But at y^e first the word Kirk persuaded me to incline to conceive he might be some Scotch clergyman y^t made this division ; but I was quickly extricated out of this doubt ; when I overlooked y^e names of these 17 Kirks, I found not one Scotch saint (only S^t. Andrew). But y^e generality inclines to S^t. Patrick, who hath 2 Kirks ; Germanus the Bishop, who was instituted by him ; S^t. Maughald, y^t succeeded after Concha, S^t. Patrick's mother, and Bridget, etc. Howsoever at this day they retain y^e old name of the first division, and are called the 17 parish churches, every church or parish bearing the additional name of y^e saint to whom y^e parish church or chapel in old time was dedicated, except one of them only, namely, Ballalough, etc.

And thus they ordered them :—

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Kirk Christ of Rushin. | 10. Kirk Christ of Ayre. |
| 2. Kirk Arbery or Har-
bercy. | 11. Kirk Bridgt or Bridget. |
| 3. Kirk Melve or Malev. | 12. Kirk Andrew or Andres. |
| 4. Kirk Santon or St. Ann. | 13. Kirk Jorby or S ^t . Patrick
of Jorby. |
| 5. Kirk Bradon or Bradan. | 14. Kirk Ballaugh, or S ^t . Mary's
of Ball or Ballaugh. |
| 6. Kirk Marcom or Mortoun. | 15. Kirk Michael. |
| 7. Kirk Concan or Onken. | 16. Kirk Jerman or German. |
| 8. Kirk Konnon or Lannon. | 17. Kirk Patrick of Peel. |
| 9. Kirk Maghauld. | |

W^m. Harrison addeth two more, Kirk Lovel and Kirk Mary, which I found not in any Manks Key which I used, and therefore I omit them.

THE 2D DIVISION POLITICAL CONCERNING THE GOVERNMENT
IN THE ISLAND.

As England generally is divided into shires, and every shire subdivided into hundreds, etc., so these 17 Kirks or parishes are subdivided into 6 parts, which in y^e Manks speech are called Sheedings, and to every Sheeding they allot to comprehend 3 Kirks or parishes, only one Sheeding must have but two (for 6 times 3 makes 18), but because there are but 17 parishes, therefore 1 Sheeding cannot have power but in two parishes only, which is in the Sheeding of Glanfaba.

The 6 Sheedings are thus named :—

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Rushin. | 4. Kirk Michael. |
| 2. Glanfaba. | 5. Garse. |
| 3. The Middle Sheeding. | 6. Ayre. |
-
- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| 1. Rushin in y ^e parishes of . | { | Kirk Malev. |
| | { | Arbery. |
| | { | Kirk Christ of Rushin. |
| 2. Glanfaba hath . . . | { | Kirk Patrick of Peel. |
| | { | Kirk German. |
| 3. Middle Sheeding hath . | { | Kirk Bradan. |
| | { | Kirk Santon. |
| | { | Kirk Maron. |
| 4. Kirk Michael hath . . | { | Kirk Michael. |
| | { | Kirk Patrick, Jorby. |
| | { | Kirk Mary, Ballaugh. |
| 5. Garse hath | { | Kirk Maghauld. |
| | { | Kirk Lonan. |
| | { | Kirk Concan. |

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 6. Ayre hath | { | Kirk Christ of Ayre.
Kirk Bride.
Kirk Andrew. |
|------------------------|---|---|

To every Sheeding there belongeth an officer commonly called y^e Crowner or Coroner, but in the Manks language is called *Annos*. They are six in number, according to the number of the Sheedings, of whom I shall speak hereafter.

But not y^t tho' y^e Sheeding of Rushin be ever first named and accounted for the principle Coroner, and in divers places hath y^e command of the other Crowners, and of the Moors also, in these Sheedings, and in every parish also, there is another officer called the Moor, of whom in y^e 2 books following. Besides the Court for the Sheeding is first kept twice in the year at May and Michaelmas in Peeltown.

THE 3D DIVISION OF THE ISLAND.

The last (which I call the legal) division concerneth their Justices or Judges only, who there are called Deemsters, of whom I shall show you more in the 2d book hereafter. These judges are not many, for two only are sufficient to hear, determine, and end all causes, controversies, and cases in law which concerneth any man in any part of the Island. This Island being long and narrow, they therefore part into the north and south (in the midst overthward y^e Island). The one Deemster hath jurisdiction from the midst northward, the other from the midst southward, so all controversies are presently ended in whatsoever part of the Island they happen.

CHAPTER V.

OF CERTAIN ISLANDS APPERTAINING UNTO THE ISLE OF MAN.

THERE are 3 islands (so called, but indeed are islets and but little ones), which do belong and are adjacent unto the Isle of Man, yet the least, tho' very little, is of greatest concernment and consequence, and is called Peel or Pile, wherein is a castle. This island is situated on y^e west side of the island, about the midst thereof. This island (as I conceive by many, but amiss), called S^t. Patrick's Island. Of this Island I shall have occasion to speak at large in y^e 2^d book of this history, when I shall treat of y^e fortifications of Man. There is another islet, which they call S^t. Michael's Island, and lieth in the south-east part of Man, which they call the longnouse. It containeth not above 2 acres of ground, yet it hath a handsome church, with a spire steeple, which some told me was dedicated to S^t. Patrick, but I rather presume it was dedicated to S^t. Michael, of whom the islet doth bear its name; there are a few houses, or rather cottages. I can give you no other account concerning any particulars of this islet as yet, and I believe little more is to be expected concerning it, only I wou'd here disabuse you if you mistake this island of S^t. Michael's for y^t. parish church (which is one of the 17 before named), and is called Kirk S^t. Michael, for y^t parish is within Man itself, on the west side thereof, and inclining somewhat northward, and is of larger extent than this islet. Anno 1350, W^m. Russel, Bishop of Man,¹ held a synod in S^t. Michael's Church, but whether in this or in the other of Kirk

¹ See Monast. Angl., p. 716.

St Michael, which I rather now believe you may know more assuredly hereafter. The 3d island and y^e greatest of y^e 3 is called the Calf of Man; it stretcheth itself under the Isle of Man on the south thereof, pointing westward, and lieth about y^e parallel of Drogida, vulgarly called Tredagh, in Ireland, altho' John Speed, in his treatise of the Empire of Great Britain, placeth it over against Dublin. John Tap, in his Seaman's Calendar, saith y^t y^e Mould of Cralve and y^e Calf of Man lie south-south-east, and north-north-west, and are distant ten leagues. Here altho' the soil be in many places heathy, and some hills are in the west end thereof, pointing towards Ireland, yet is their good pasturage, and not only the best beef and mutton, but also great store of hares and rabbits of both sorts, fat and sweet, from hence have the islanders, I mean y^e Manksmen, their puffins, which are here as numerous as in the Island of Bardsey, in the west point of Anglesey. Concerning those puffins, Mr. Chaloner hath made so perfect, exact, and excellent an observation of whatsoever concerneth them, that I cannot omit to impart it to my reader, for his recreation as well as mine, seeing his book of y^e description of y^e Isle of Man is scarce visible, but overshadowed by y^t great volume of The Vale Royal of England, or the County Palatine of Chester, unto which it is annexed, and I will only use his own words, y^t it may be acknowledged.¹ "There is in the Calf of Man a sort of sea-fowl called puffins of a very unctious constitution, which breed in y^e coney holes (y^e coneys leaving their coney holes for a time, and are never seen with their young but either very early in the morning, or late in the evening), nourishing (as is conceived) their young with oil which, drawn from their own constitution, is dropped into their mouths, for y^t being opened there is found in their crops no other sustenance but a single sorrel leaf, which the old give their young for digestion sake (as is con-

¹ And therefore not obvious to every one for his and not mine.

jectured). The flesh of these birds is not pleasant fresh, because of their rank and fish-like taste ; but pickled or salted they may be ranked with anchovies, caviare, or the like, but profitable they are in their feathers and oyle, of which they make great use about their wool.”¹ Here are also those sea fowles geese, which most will have to be generated of putrified wood, which by them are called barnacles, but by the Scots claik geese and soland geese, but I suppose they may breed of a shellfish y^t groweth on the rocks, and is called by those of Guernsey and Jersey and (is no stranger in Cornwall) called a lampet.

At my being in Man, they told me there was but one house in all the island, and only 2 or 3 servants y^t did live in it ; it is invironed with rocks, and there is but 1 entrance into it. It is not full 2 miles in compass, and is now in the possession of the Earl of Darby ; formerly it was the inheritance of the Stephensons of Baladowle. All Man much glorieth in its Calf, and do still retain the memory of that vast wit for inventions,² where he late had an hermitical life in y^e cave of a hollow rock in this island, and do still talk of his pendant bed³ and strange diet, but because neither himself is truly understood, nor his diet related by y^e Manksmen, I shall here take y^e boldness to insert his own relation of his residence there, which I found set down in his mineral overture to the parliament, thus expressing himself: “The embrions of his mines proving abortive by the sudden fall and death of my late Lord Chancelour Bacon, in King James’s reign, were the motives which persuaded my pensive retirements to a 3 years’ unsociable solitude in y^e desolated isle called the Calf of Man, where in obedience to my dead lord philosophical advice, I resolved to make a perfect experiment upon myself,

¹ [See Chaloner’s “Treatise of the Isle of Man,” p. 7. Manx Society, Vol. x. 1863.—Editor.]

² Mr. Tho^s. Bushel.

³ Such as the hammocks in ships.

for the obtaining of a long and healthy life, most necessary for such a repentance as my former debauchedness required by a parsimonious diet of herbs, oil, mustard, and honey, with water sufficient, most like to y^t our long liv'd fathers before the flood, as was conceiv'd by y^t lord, which I most strictly observed, as if obliged by a religious vow, till divine p^r called me to a more active life," etc.

In y^e perusing of the Monks' papers they never made any mention of any Island in Man but of these 3 only, yet here is another place in the Island (which, I suppose, by reason of 2 rivulets y^t run out of 2 loughs into the sea, enclosing y^e north and south parts thereof, and y^e sea itself washing it on y^e west, so y^t 3 parts thereof is moistened and enclosed with water), whereby almost, for the space of 1200 years, it hath been called an Island (altho' it merit not to be accepted for a peninsula).¹ However, S^t. Patrick arriving (at his first landing in the Isle of Man) at this promontory, called Jorby Point, and making some small stay there, hath ever since been called S^t. Patrick's Island, and here he placed his bishop's seat, which continued there, it may not be long after S^t. Patrick's death, howsoever, for a time, but now it hath lost the name of an island, and is now called Kirk Patrick of Jorby, which still retaineth the name of S^t. Patrick, and acknowledgeth thereby his landing there. Mr. Chaloner seemeth to hold y^t there was no other place called St. Patrick's Island but y^e Island of Peel; but Joselinus confirmeth me y^t it must be Jorby, for there is no other promontory noted in the Island of Man, but that to satisfy this doubt you need only find out a place called Stantway, near S^t. Patrick's Island, where, anno 1098, a great battle was fought between the northern and southern men, for y^e Cronicle of Man saith in the same year King Magnus arriv'd in Man and landed. He came to S^t. Patrick's Island to see

¹ Joselin, in Vita Patricii.

the place wherein the battle had been fought a little before between the Manksmen, because many of y^e bodies y^t were slain lay yet there unburied. Now, Peel Island being so little, I conceive, an unfit place for such a multitude of men to fight in.

Yet note y^e one thing, that this name of S^t. Patrick's Isle held y^e name from y^e year 447, untill the coming of Magnus, King of Norway, an. 1098, which is full 651 years, yea and for some years after, for Wimundus, the first Bishop after the union of the 2 bishopricks, and John, his successor, were Olave, the son of Godred, King of Man, died in S^t. Patrick's Isle, tho' buried in the Abbey of Rushin, both buried in this Isle of S^t. Patrick, as saith Mathew Paris; yet I incline to confide y^t very shortly after, at least within some 79 years, y^e bishop's seat might be removed to Peel, but whether to the Island or town of Peel I make a question, which may easily be decided by a church builded to S^t. German, their first bishop, and began to be builded (as saith the Bishops of Armagh), by Simon, Bishop of Sodor, about anno 1247, in S^t. Patrick's Isle, for still it kept the name. You may, peradventure, marvel why I named the town of Peel, seeing it was not fitly called an island neither of S^t. Patrick or any other. But in reading of Monasticon Anglicanum, y^t there is a church dedicated to S^t. German y^e first bishop of y^e island in Holm Sodor, *alias* Peel (which Mr. Chaloner calleth Hollam Town), which it seemeth was the antient name of Peel Town. Now I must tell y^t to call Holms Sodor, as much as to say the Island of Sodor, for holms¹ in y^e Scottish language signifieth a little island, for so I find it in Maxwell's Abridgment in the Scottish Chronocle, speaking of the Orcades, he hath these words: "Northward from Strom lieth south Ramasa, five miles long, with two

¹ See in Cambden's Britannia Norfolk, p. 478, wherein he useth y^e word holm to signify an island.

little islands or holms, good for pasturage ;” yet I was not fully satisfied with this till I remembred the Lord Cook saith, y^t hulmus is interpreted insula, an isle.

Let the reader make what use of this he pleaseth, but y^e bishop's seat was removed again to a village called Balacurri, but why or when I cannot inform you, at which place y^e last bishop died, who was called Dr. R^d. Parr.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE AIR, Yⁿ SOIL, THE SEA, AND COMMODITIES OF THE
ISLE OF MAN.

THE air of this island is both sharp and cold in the winter months, yet I observed it to be much more mild than in Wales, which verifieth the opinion of some y^t hold islands to be less cold than y^e continents; and they have reason, for, as Cicero saith, islands are warmed with the environing seas, which have a heat enclosed, and the tides being in continual agitation, their motion must necessarily produce heat, according to Aristotle's axiom; and without heat there can be no motion at all, as Alphidus, the Chemic philosopher, truly observes; besides misty vapours there abounding are distilled and descend in showers of rain, which much mitigates the cold, as is observed in Ireland. But y^e foggs and mists of this Island of Man, tho' frequent, yet neither do nor can corrupt the air, for that is cleansed as with brecons on the billows y^t ever work from her environing seas, whereby the air becomes more pure and subtil, and therefore very healthful, tho' with-all piercing and sharp, as some¹ have observed in Normandy and the air of France. The islanders showed me divers observations of theirs demonstrating the island to be exceeding wholesome to live in, y^t no damps or any venomous vapours have been seen to arise out of the earth in any part of the island at any time. The plague was never known to have been there in any of their ancestors' memory; the inhabitants there are long liv'd, even of both

¹ Clement Edmound, l. 5, c. 5.

sexes ; most of them ordinarily do live unto 80, many unto an 100 years and upwards ; their women are very fruitful. Lastly, all observe what one delivereth as a maxim—y^e batful, fecond, fertile soil yield commonly the worst, the barron the best air. For tho' some mistaking have amiss inform'd us y^t this island's soil is almost equal with Anglisey in fertility, for we acknowledge this island's northern part to be for the most healthy and gravelly ground, much resembling the mountainous parts of Wales ; the southern is acknowledged to have good meadow and pasture ground. All parts of the Island,¹ as well the north as the south, yieldeth store of all sorts of grain,² both barley, wheat, rye, and oats (yet of y^e last the most), but not only of each satisfying the inhabitants' necessity, but also affording an overplus for exportation unto other parts ; and y^e corn of this Island is so purely good as y^t you shall not find, no not in England, either better bread or better beer than is there commonly to be sold. It is a strange assertion (or a mistake of his sense of me) y^t Josephus shou'd conceive y^t no corn did grow in any islands, for whereas King Hiram required and King Solomon did furnish him with corn, Josephus saith he stood in need thereof, because he inhabited an island. It may be in Tyrus³ there was none or not sufficient, for it is a rocky island ; and even in these western islands of Scotland, antiently called Hebrides and Ebude because they yielded no corn, for the inhabitants lived upon fish and milk, saith Solinus, and y^e old Britons called them Ed-eid, y^t is without corn, by Cambden's interpretation, yet y^e island of Sicily hath always been reputed the granary of Italy, and Anglisey, of minor circumference than the Isle of Man, is known to be the granary of North Wales,⁴ for wheat groweth in such abundance there, as Mr. Gerald Cambrensis in his time, y^t island was very pro-

¹ Polycron, L. 1, c. 44.² V. Bede, Hist. of Eng., l. 2, c. 9.³ Sand's Travails, l. 4, p. 246.⁴ Abridg. c. 15 of Eng.

verbially called Mon Mam Combrey, or, as some write it, Gumry, which is as much as to say Mon (y^t is Anglisey) is the mother of Wales, for, as Polycron Mercator and John Speed write, when the provision in the other shires of Wales were either spent or their harvest failed, Anglisey alone, like a full-breasted mother, was always to sustain the rest; and it is expected $y^t y^e$ soil here will be much improved, and y^e island much enabled to yield much more quantity of corn, by the late governor's practice (both for his own and y^e islanders' profit), for they now marle their arable ground with lime, which was never there put in practice before; but in my opinion the expectation would be far greater if the natives knew the preparation of the sea-weed,¹ whereof they have great plenty cast up daily upon the shore by the flowing of the sea, and were taught the use and practice of it, as we have in England, where our allom mines are there were no marle comparable to it; and it might easily be prepared within the island itself, without either much labour or almost any charge. Myself am able to discover much which I shall willingly do if they desire it, and y^t freely.

This island, besides corn of all sorts, yieldeth good store of flax and hemp, neither is this little bee an idle droan, but affordeth both honey and wax, not only for the use of the inhabitants, but for exportation also, for it employed the same heretofore to further and lighten the antient Christians in their synaxes, but is now employed for their patrons' uses to exchange for other necessities with the shopkeepers which are wanting in the island. There is not much pasture ground, the most and best is in the Earl of Darby's possession, lying in the south part of the Island, near unto his castle of Rushin, and in the castle of Man, etc. Their neat,² therefore, in general are, by consequence, little, low, small, and poor (but not in any extremity), resembling those of Ireland, but nothing

¹ Alge, whereof the kelp is made.

² Their cattle.

near our breed of England, and no marvel, for they feed for the most part in heathy ground, lying continually in the open fields both winter and summer, never housed; neither is any hay or fodder given them, but are enforced to feed on what they find, those y^t graze by y^e sea shore or near thereto are observed every day of themselves to go down in companies (nature and necessity only guiding) and there will they expect the ebbing of the water to have y^e benefit to eat of y^e sea tangle,¹ y^t is those weeds which the sea, at the coming in of the tides, casteth upon the land, and ebbing, leaving them in great heaps. The cattle do more willingly, yea, I may truly say more greedily, feed on those weeds than upon grass or hay. And it is there observed y^t those cows y^t feed on them are far fairer, bigger-bodied, fatter, and yield more milk than those of the inland y^t have not the same commodity for their saturation, sustentation, and nourishment. You need not to question whether amongst British animals, in every species, there be not some, as well as amongst men, which may be reputed not only in y^e *natura brevium*, but meerly of the Pigmean races. For example, in horses in England, we shall have those we call titts, the Irish their hobbys, the Scotch their Galloway naggs y^t run wild all the summer on the mountains in Wales.² But S^r. Evan Loyd's bred of the little dainty diminutive merlins do far exceed all the rest in a small, neat, curious composure, as if cast in a mold, but these are all of the Gentillesso. The Manks breed are low and little, equal with the least of these above named (except the merlin), and withal frightfully poor, and the most unsightly that may any where be found.³ As the Orcades horses are said to resemble y^e French asses, so these do not differ either in height or shape from those, for you are scarce able to discover any head for hair,⁴ which is of a sooty black

¹ Alga.² At Gale in Denbyshire.³ Hect. Boet., Descr. 16, 1, 9.⁴ Wm. Harrison's Descr. of Scot., Ch. 12.

colour ; I cou'd not discern any of them y^t had so much as one white spot in foot or face, nor other colour but the chimeria black in any part of their body.

This long scaring stragling hair hangs dangling down almost 2 or 3 handfuls beneath the whole length of their bellies, their excoriated hides are not (by the bye) to be distinguished from a bear's skin. A reasonable tall man need no stirrups to ascend him, but being mounted, no man need to desire a better travailing beast ; they will plod on freely and willingly with a soft and round amble, setting as easy as your Irish hobbies ; you have no need of spurs or switch. In enduring labour and hardness they exceed others, they will travail the whole day and night also, if they be put to it, without either meat or drink. Their sheep, therefore, thrive best in this Island ; they are as fat and their flesh as well tasted as our mutton, but generally they are not so great of body ; we cannot but admire y^t some should relate all they do hear or read of all countries but seek not truth. W^m. Harrison here deserves the whetstone, who seems to equal the sheep of this Island, with the weathers of Africa, described by Leo Africanus, whose tails outweigh the body of a calf, for he hath printed that the sheep of y^e Island of Man are exceeding huge, well wooled, and their tails of such greatness as is almost incredible. Besides I am to inform my readers that they be not misled by what either Cambden or Speed (both being misinformed by Bishop Merrick's relation) have showed us, that there are in this Island of Man mighty flocks of sheep and of other cattle, for it is not so in either of them ; there is sufficient store not only to nourish the natives, but some also may be allowed for transportation, but neither of beef or sheep, or any thing else which the Island yieldeth, is there any excessive or superabundant number. Whatsoever the Island yieldeth is for quality very good, but this good falleth only short in quantity, for we observe to some countries nature seems to have showed her-

self more liberal, yea, to some in somethings as seeming prodigal, to this Island it hath given the mean; it neither abounds in superfluities nor is defective in necessities. Before the Lord of Darby's residence in the Island, flying from the troubles then in Lancashire, it abounded plentifully with all necessities.

The wool of their sheep is very good, but not to be compared to our Cotswold or Leicester, yet have they a little and but a little of a certain wool which I attempt one of the rarities of the island, and far exceeds their other wool in fineness. This sort of wool they call Laughton wool; and y^e sheep y^t beareth y^t coloured wool, the Manksmen call y^e grayish coloured Laughton in their language, howbeit this coloured wool to me seemed rather to resemble the deer colour, inclining to fevill mort, and near but not so high tinted as y^e hair colour. Mr. Chaloner calleth it a sand colour and not unfitly; but the rarity of this wool is very remarkable, for it is no certain place to be found in all the island. It is a monady, for one only sheep of the whole flock will have this coloured wool in any part of the Island, and they are observed not to impart that colour to their lambs. Wherefore there is not much of it to be had thro'out the whole Island. Yet I did see the late Lord of Man, James, Earl of Darby, to wear an entire suit made of y^t wool.

It is strange y^t no enquiries have been made as yet to explore the true causes of this effect, whether this Laughton colour proceed from some vertue or propriety either of the soil or any spring or water of this island, for some soils and some waters have such a propriety as Dubartas, thus rendered by Sylvester, confirmeth—

Cerona Zanthé Cephisus do make ¹
 The 30 flocks y^t of them do water take.
 Black red and white, and near the crimson,
 Th' Arabian fountain maketh crimson sheep.

¹ In the 3d of the 1st week.

Pliny¹ saith y^e waters of Busentor hath a propriety to dy the hair black, the river Crathis to tinct it yellow.

Crathis ad hinc Sybaris nostris conterminus oris,
Electro similes faciunt auroque capillas.

Or from the occult propriety of some herbs (not obvious in all places), which being by any sheep encountered and cropt, have any such secret quality to produce such an effect, my assent inclineth to this last, for if it had proceeded from any vertue, or quality of any soil, spring, or water there, all the flock (probably) drinking and eating thereof and therein would all have been clothed with y^t coloured wool.

Cambden² and Speed say y^t y^e red soil of Rutlandshire dieth the wool of y^e sheep red, but seeing there is but one only sheep (y^t feedeth in the same field with 50 or 100 more) y^t hath accidentally acquired this coloured wool, in all probability this solitary herb or tree must needs have the honour to produce this tinted colour, for casually being eaten up by this one sheep the other sheep could find no more individumens of y^e same species to feed upon, until y^e next spring y^t it doth again sprout out leaves out of the same root. Let not this seem strange, for both herbs and trees have the same propriety to work the same effect, as Virgil testifieth of y^e tamarisk.

*Ipse sed in pratis aries jam suave rubenti,
Murice jam croceo mutabit vellera luto.*

But I have not read of a more strong strange effect in any place than in Gauth³ (west of Baugvan in Scotland), where is a hill called Doundee, y^t is y^e Golden Mountain, for the sheep y^t feed therein are yellow and their teeth of the same colour, their flesh and wool red as tintured with saffron. But I cannot forbear to acquaint you with what Augustin Etzlinus saith y^t if a sheep by any accident do become co-

¹ Nat. Hist., l. 3.

² Camb. Rutlandshire, p. 515, abr. in Rutland.

³ Hector B., Scotio Regni Descriptio, p. 9.

loured with any usual colour, it portends the happy affluence of all good things. Here I wou'd with y^t Mr. James Chaloner advise (from the Lords of Man) were put in practice for y^e profit of the islanders, by a manufactory of y^e wools of y^e island, in imitation of the island Jarsey y^t hath no wool in it considerable or equal to Man, yet it maintaineth a great trade with the wools there wrought and brought out of other countries. In this island there are store of hoggs of an ordinary grandure, but I neither hear nor see of any in any part of the island of such a magnitude as were in a manner monstrous. As Wm. Harrison relateth all swine of what age soever (of delinquents) are y^e lords, and all goats of what age soever are the queen's of Man, rabbits and all. Poultry are here sold at very small rates—a goose for a groat, ducks, hens, etc., in the like manner, and 10 or 12 eggs are ordinarily sold for a peny, there are, moreover, for y^t recreation otters, badgers, foxes, hares, and coneys of all-sufficient store, but I cordially cou'd wish their hares were much more numerous in this island, but not so many as might super multiply, as once they did in the Balcares Islands, whose inhabitants, says Pliny, were informed to crave the assistance of a Roman regiment to destroy them, not y^t more here were desired for the pleasure and recreation in hunting 'em, for there are sufficient store, as I said before, but for a rarity, which the hares here in the Isle of Man are famed for, which is another rarity. I observe there, which is found but in few if in any other countries, and y^t is y^t the hares there are very fat, their fat being an ingredient so much desired and admired both by the later and antient physicians for its many and rare vertues and propriety in healing many diseases in many bodies both inwardly and outwardly.

Tuto cito et jucunde.

There are some deer in the mountains, but those belong

to the Lord of Man, and therefore you must have his licence to hunt, or otherwise forfeit a fine of 3 pounds, besides imprisonment during his pleasure; this is one of their customary laws. You may there find a few ayries of excellent hawks, which are accounted to equal if not to exceed those of Ireland, and therefore our King Henry y^e 4th in his Letters Patent¹ of y^e grant of y^e Island to S^r John Stanley, y^e first king of Man of y^t name and race, obliged him in lieu of all other gifts upon the day of his and his successor's coronation, y^t he present him with a cast of hawks.

Herns also for your sport with the lord's leave, otherwise you are to pay the fine aforesaid, but you are to take any other fowls, either wild ducks, cranes, bittern, widgeans, or teal, etc. But neither patriges nor farkers will live there, altho' imported, as was experienc'd by James, late Lord of Man, who of purpose brought over thither some out of England, but they cou'd no more thrive there than hares can live in his Island of Ithaca,² or owles in the Island of Creet, or mice in the Island of Arren (by Ireland), or dogs in Sigaron, an island in Arabia Felix, whither voluntarily they will not enter, and if brought in they will not cease their running until they have run out their life, but of all fowles there the puffins are most numerous, but of them and of the barnacles, I have already made mention in the Calf of Man. John Speed wou'd persuade you that there are some woods in the Isle of Man; but Cambden denies it, for he saith, y^t this Island is Sylvis indig: the natives, and truly told me there were none, which our law-books and S^r Edward Cook seem to confirm, for he citeth a law-case as a customary law in the Isle of Man, y^t stealing of an ox or an horse is no felony why the law-book saith they cannot hide them as having no woods. This case was argued in y^e 12th year of the reign of King Henry y^e 8th. There hath been no woods in Man this 140

¹ See y^e Letters Patents, l. 2, c. 4.

² Pliny, l. 6, c. 28.

years past, and I do not remember to have seen any one hedge y^t parted either field or pastures, but all were either of turfs or of earth stones or of both ; and therefore of this Island is the old observation verified y^t woods are in no place more decayed than where they have most decayed. I say abounded, yea I cou'd not observe one tree to be in any place but what grew in gardens—there is so great scarcity even of birch, as y^t y^e mercers in Man, whom they call shopkeepers, when they come into England for other commodities, they buy up our birch brooms, and of them they make rods and sell them to parents to correct their children, and schoolmen to discipline their schollars.

Yet none can deny but that there have been great store of woods there,¹ seeing it is by all acknowledged to have been the prime seat of y^e Druids, who never inhabited any place which was not stored with oakes. Polydore Virgil, in the time of Agricola his being in England, saith that Paulinus commanded that their woods shou'd be cut down because they were superstitiously abused by the Druids, yea Julius Agricola himself might give such a commandment, for Cooper saith he was himself in Man, and had conquered it after he had conquered Anglisey. But all the woods were not rooted up by either of them, for I read of this island long after the Druids,² even above 1000 years after their extirpation in y^e time of our W^m. the First, commonly called the Conqueror, y^t there were great woods still in Man, especially in the north, as his history evinceth, which is taken out of their own chronocle written by y^e Monks of Rushen, and copied out of them by Cambden, and J. Speed out of him.

There is one of y^e 17 kirks or parishes of Man is called Kirkarberry because formerly it was surrounded with trees, arbolick. Godred Conan, the son of Harrold y^e Black of Island (after y^e death of Syrrick, king of Man), ano. 1066 or

¹ Hist. Anglisey, l. 1.

² De Insul. Britannico, ab., c. 44.

1067, invaded the Isle of Man with a great fleet, and having been twice repulsed by the Islanders, at y^e 3d attempt he attained y^t by policy which he cou'd not obtain by force for entering the Bay of Ramsey with his fleet; he had 300 men in a wood, while the battle standing in doubtful suspense, y^e 300 men in ambush violently rushed out and forced the Manksmen to fly. Since the woods were destroyed and no sea cole is as yet discovered in the Island, there is no want of any necessary thing for y^e Island so much as fuelling, yet are they not much necessitated, and y^t very seldom or never expect when it is overcharged, as it was during y^e late troubles in England. In the want thereof they have sufficient store of sea cole imported thither at very easy rates both from Whitehaven in Cumber^d and Weirwater and Liverpool in Lancashire, or from Bagot Moston, and y^e north parts of Carnarvenshire and Flintshire in Wales.

The only fuelling which y^e Island naturally produceth is gorse and heath, which they call ling; of these they have abundance, as also of broom, of turf y^t is good they have some, but not in quantity, but they have great store of a courser, clammy, and more earthly turf where the poor make their fire, but the better sort do only make use thereof to mix wth their sea coal to make it burn the better.

You would admire to see this course turf sold here in the market; y^e constant price of 12 loads is 10 pence, which any might presume were a cheap bargain. But their panniers are so little which they put upon those pygmean horses, as y^t you shall be enforced to put upon your grate 3 horse loads at least to make one reasonable fire. Concerning quarries of stone one may suppose this Island to have suffered a greater scattering and cleaving of stone and y^e rocks by that stupendous subterranean earthquake at our B^d Saviour's death, than any other. I call it subterranean, because it seemeth it showed not its effects in any part of

the superficies of the earth, for neither the sacred text, nor Josephus, nor any history, maketh mention y^t any of y^e towers of Jerusalem, or so much as a chimney, was shattered down either there or anywhere; but some conceived to have been universal, but more in Man than any other place (y^t I have seen but only in North Wales). Ranulf of Chester saith, before our B^d S^{'s} death all quarries were of one entire stone, but here and in Wales they are so extreemly broken, as if they were only piles of slates heaped one upon another. There hath not been discovered any mines of minerals of metals. Mr. Chaloner telleth us of one of lead near y^e sea cragg called Mine hough, which was experienced by Capⁿ Edw^d Christian to hold much silver. No quarries of free-stone yet found, but upon the sea-side near Baladowle; but it is very difficult to be polished in regard to the hardness thereof, of which stone y^e Castle of Rushin is built, and it may be the Abbey of Rushin also by Bala Sala. The minerals I make no doubt, but y^t sea-coal, vitriol, and allom, might as well be found there (if sought) as well as in Wales; and if M^r Tho^s Bushel's melancholy would have permitted him to have left the Calf to have surveyed the Man itself, he should have found (I presume) more hopefull encouragements there then since he hath yet found in y^e mountains of Talibunt Reginian, y^e Darcenbroom Loyd, Comerion Comsomlock, or in any other part of South Wales. Yet if a mine royal should at any time be discovered, it is to be feared least Man becoming rich the Manksmen become not miserable as y^e Mexicans in America. Howsoever, I confide y^t it will be experienced hereafter y^t Man is far richer under ground than it is above. I find some heretofore y^t had a mill, but none y^t did attempt the search to make a real discovery. For Tho^s Earl of Darby, and King of Man, by a deed,¹ bearing date at his

¹ See *Monasticon Anglicanum*. Part of y^e 3^d, where you may read the deed itself at large. [Printed in Oliver's "*Monumenta*," vol. iii. pp. 27-31. *Manx Society*, Vol. IX. 1862.—Editor.]

house in Lathom anno 1505, granted to Huan, Bishop of Sodor, all the mines of lead and iron he could find ; but it seemeth he found none, nor any other have discovered any since, but of limestones, till of late, as I mentioned above.

It is conceived y^t 2 parts of 3 are mountains in this Island, w^{ch} from the eastern to the western do cross this Isle, and especially towards the midst of this Isle seems to swell into hills and mountains poorly clad with any verdure, but all usefull there to supply the place of watch-towers, y^t whereon S^t Mathew, as in y^e north part of y^e Isle, and a part thereof runneth flat south toward the south, inclining west. I find y^e Warehills, which extend themselves from the west coast even unto y^e east, even to y^e Burne Stream. I take these to be y^e same y^t y^e Cronocle of Man calleth y^e Watchful Hills, where Richard de Mandevil, with his Irish, fought a battle with the Manksmen, and overcame them, and plundered the Island.¹

In Kirk Michael, on the hill Revernshing, was a court holden An. 1242. More elevated than these are Maroun and Colgreve, but the most eminent and conspicuous for altitude is Seeaful (M^r. Chaloners nameth it Snawfel), wherein you may, in calm and serene weather, recreate yourself with y^e prospect of 3 Kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, yea of North Wales also. Under the hollow of this hill did Godred Crovan conceal his ambush of 300 men (as I showed you before), when y^e 3^d time he fought with the Manksmen, and obtained the Kingdom. Upon this hill is y^e principal beacon of y^e whole Island, always ready, and accommodated with a watch both day and night, winter and summer, as I shall more amply show you in y^e 12th Chap. of this Book.

In these mountains are those deer which are in the Island, for there are no chases, forrests, or parks, or any inclosures

¹ Anno 1316.

for venery ; here also (on the few trees left) are some ayres of excellent hawks. What treasures are within these mountains inclosed, Time may discover to recompence the comon want of wood. God hath gratified the islands with excellent fresh water, so pure and pleasant to y^e taste of necessitated passengers, as y^t I have heard them protest y^t in their opinion there was not anything in this Island y^t equalled y^e goodness of their water, yet in the whole Isle there is not one deserving the name of a river, and not above 4 or 5 standing pools or loughs, which are especially northward. Both in the east and west, notwithstanding, the Island aboundeth with many currents of fresh water, which we may rather call rills and rivulets than rivers or floods, as being grandeured by the descending springs and showers of rain from y^e adjacent hills and mountains. Neither are they great, long, or navigable, but most places terminated not much above the flowing, or, as we call it, the high water mark, whereof those are the principal—y^e Neb, entering the sea of Peel Town, Clawnebey river ly in Kirk Kirkby, Solbe Flood on the north of y^e haven of Ramsey, Colby Bourn in y^e south, y^t which runneth into Laxy Bay, y^e Black and White Water y^t meet at Douglas salmon river, with y^t w^{ch} runneth under the castle walls of Rushin.

Ranulf, Monk of Chester,¹ and out of him W^m. Harrison (but both misunderstanding of Ven Bede) aver that there are 2 rivers in this island, whose heads do join so near, y^t they seem to part y^e island into 2 parts, as it were into 2 islands. The first southward, this had better corn land, and contained 900. V. Bede and Winken de Word in his addition to Pollicronicon saith 960 householders. That northward 300 or more, as men guess, but y^e mistaking is scarce excusable, for Ven Bede there wrote of King Edwin's conquest of y^e Western Islands, in one of which he saith 900 families, English, might

¹ Pollicron, l. 1, c. 44.

inhabit in the other 300 speaking of several islands and not of several parts of any one island, either of Man or any other.

The sea feedeth more of the Manksmen than of the soil, as I demonstrate in y^e sequel. It yieldeth to the islanders presently of divers sorts of fish, but of no one sort so much as of herrings in their season, of which more hereafter.¹ There are great store of salmons, codds, haddocks, macarels, rayes, place, thornbecks, and more than I can name to you. They have also a small sort of ling, which they do commonly eat, being taken as other fish boiled, tho' some they salt in barrels to sell.

They have one sort of fish, and is only to be found in y^t island. It is red of colour, and to look upon you may mistake it for flesh ; but when you cut it is solid nor firm, yet it is savoury.

Their codds, thornbecks, and places, etc., they hang them upon the wall to dry them in the sun, which gives the taste of stockfish ; but being dressed, minced, and mixed with butter, they do yield the taste of ling or haberdine.

There are few or no oysters or muscles ; but of crabbs, lobsters, and cockles, abundance in their seasons.

These, and whatsoever fish they take in the island, you may buy at very easy and cheap rates.

An expert lapidary or druggist at the ebbing of y^e seatides may be here much recreated to survey w^t y^e flowing of the sea had cast up and left on the shore (being retired), for every day he shall find new discoveries, and sometimes rich commodities not understood by the natives.

This is demonstrated y^t tho' this Isle of Man hath no manna in it, nor any delicacies of dainty, superfluities to nourish vice, vanity, and riot, yet hath this Man everything fit for man ; nothing is there wanting to sustain the natives, seeing of itself in itself it is sufficiently furnished if not surcharged for strangers.

¹ Chap. X.

CHAPTER VII.

OF THE MANKSMEN, THE INHABITANTS AND NATIVES OF THE
ISLE OF MAN IN GENERAL.

VAIN, verily, and fruitless, are their endeavours of such as seek to find out the first aborigines of any country or island,¹ for, as Bucanan speaks rationally, how shall we be able to discover y^e origin and first plantation of any place, by reading of other's writings, when as there were then no books written in those times! he therefore shall best satisfy the best understandings y^t can produce y^e most probable conjecture. The same Bucanan satisfieth no more than any other y^t y^e first inhabitants y^t came out of Spain, into Ireland being numerous, did go to inhabit the little and adjacent isles, so saith Policron who voucheth Beda. The Island of Man is one of the nearest and greatest of all those islands,² those Irish in those times were called Scots, and Ireland itself was called Scotia major,³ y^e greater Scotland, and it was these Scots y^t did inhabit Man; in y^e reigns of Arcadius and Honorius, Cambden saith, truly, but presently after these Scots were driven out of all Brittagh countries and islands by Cuneda, y^e grandfather of Maglocunus, whom Guildas, for y^e havock he made in those islands, termeth him the Dragon of the Isles; after this came our King Arthur, and after him Edwin,⁴ king of Northumbers, both which reduc'd all the islands into their

¹ Excepting, as Cambden saith, those y^t have their original avouched unto them out of Holy Scrip.—Brit. p. 4. ² Descr. of Scot. l. 1, p. 41.

³ Mercator's Atlas, p. 98.

⁴ Anno 407 and 411.

subjection, and in them planted British inhabitants, with great reason, therefore, may we receive the testimony of Joselinus: y^t at y^e conversion of the Island of Man by St. Patrick it was Britania subjecta—a British Isle.

The Island of Man is at this day in a mean populous; it neither wanteth nor aboundeth, much less is it overburthened by its natives; all confess it¹ to have been in antient days and times much more populous, and more fully inhabited, but neither now nor at any time heretofore, was this island famed to abound with numerous natives; their kings were truly called kings of Man but not kings of Men, for if a body of 6 or 7000 here upon urgent or necessitous occasion to be transported out of the island, it wou'd, as I conceive, be so dispeopled as y^t their women would be compel'd to practise to become Amazons, and to pray to God for his assistance, for as we might say with David, vain wou'd be the help or hope of Man, for an enemy will not fear what man then could do unto them, for it is true y^t both Godred and Olave equipped many ships, and in them they brought great numbers of men from Ireland. But it was not y^e Island of Man alone y^t assisted them with so many, the islands of the Hebrides, whereof they then were lords, being, as Bucanan, Munro, and others, say, are 300 in number, out of these were brought the greatest bulk. Now concerning the inhabitants, as y^e Isle of Man resembléth the mountaneous parts of Wales, in the soil, so is there little difference in the seating of the inhabitants, I say of their habitations in the country, for in travailing from one town to another you discover their country houses, or rather hovels, almost at y^e end of every other acre of ground, solely seated and dispersed, yet scarce 2 flightshot distant the one from the other, for as I may say of them, as Piso in Strabo, which resembled the torrid parts of Africk to a Libbard's skin,

¹ Speed Theat. p. 91. [Speed's "Theatre of the Empire of Great Britaine" was published in 1611, 1614, and 1627. Folio.—Editor.]

the distance of whose spots represented here and there the dispeasence of their habitations.

Being now to give y^e reader the character of y^e inhabitants of this Island, and in this chapter of such as live in y^e country in particular, I hold it requisite to observe decorum to distinguish and to give precedency to y^e gentry from and before the helotts and peasants, for there is as great a disparity betwixt them in their dispositions as there is in their qualities. For their gentry are truly gentle, courteous, affable, and more willingly will discourse with you in the English than in their own language, whom I observed even of all them, not only to speak true English, but to pronounce so naturally as y^t I cou'd not observe any different tone in their pronunciation of our English as is comonly noted, both in the Irish, Scots, and Welsh, and in all strangers, neither any of these to be distinguished from our English, either by the countenance, carriage, apparel, diet, or housekeeping, but in most imitating, as Speed well observed, y^e Lancashire gentry, as having had so long converse with the house of Darby themselves and all their officers and retinue being all Lancashire men.

There is not one of these y^t beareth y^e title of a gentleman in y^e Isle of Man, y^t doth pride it to live in any of y^e townes or villages, but have their mansion houses built upon their own lands in the country,¹ and these for the major part have high handsome well-built houses, after the English fashion, altho' but few, for you cannot expect the number of y^e gentry here to be many in so small and poor a plott of earth, these have good tho' not great estates, the greatest that I cou'd be inform'd of exceeded not £600 or £700 p. annum, the rest some have 5, 4, 3, or under. They told me there were not above six families of note in all the Island, yet some of these are of great antiquity, especially those y^t bear y^e surnames

¹ In France and Italy their gentry for the most part live in cities and towns; our English in villages build their houses.

of Christian and Canell. These 2 and worthy are of the greatest repute amongst them at this day ; the other seem to be of a lower class, for out of these 2 families their Deemsters, who are their judges to decide law causes and controversies (as I shall show you in the 2^d Book of this History), have long been, and at my being there, were chosen out of these, yet I find one Edward Cockil to be one of the Deemsters, in the time of Edward, Earl of Darby ; and Robert Colcoats was receiver of y^e Castle of Man. The peasants of y^e island y^t reside in the country are the true Manks breed and home-bred natives of Man ; these for the generality are tall of stature and of a strenuous bulk, but boorish as y^e Beotian, having their wits as gross as their ayre. I cannot paralel these people with any so well and so fitly as the Hollanders, I mean as they were in the reign of our Queen Elizabeth,¹ for since they have much refined their spirits so as now they confide not only to outwit us in negotiations and treaties, but to overmaster us at sea and navigation, but it were fit they would still retain a grateful acknowledgment unto England, y^t first infused y^t spirit into them which they have since so much improved, therefore I will not nor I do not paralell these Manksmen with y^e hogan mogan Hollanders, but with those of theirs which themselves call water sanders, with whom these men seem to sympathise in many particulars.

Wherefore his character here shall be the same as w^t Mr Isaac Howel gives to his Hollander.²

They are heavy and homely, surly, disrespectful, yea, griping extorters of strangers, for, upon the arrival of any ship of any part of y^e Island, they presently pretend a dearth and scarcity there, by making their dissembled wants the means to procure better rates for what they are disposed to vent or sell unto them. These men's habitations are mere hovels,

¹ About Anno Ch. 1522.

² Fam. Ep., vol. 2d, Ep. 12, p. 20.

compacted of stones and clay for the walls, thatch'd with broom, most commonly containing one room only. Very few have 2 rooms, have no upper rooms,—such as in their towns they call lofts,—nor any ceiling but the thatch itself, with the rafters, yet in this smoking hut, like y^e wild Irish, of whom many opine them to be antiently descended, doth the man, his wife, and children, cohabit, and in many places with y^e geese and ducks under y^e bed, the cocks and hens over his head, the cow and calf at the bed's feet, so as Justus Lipsius, if he had travelled hither, he might have found the same entertainment here which he found in Westphalia.¹ These are a strange sort breed of men y^t do want nothing because they frame themselves to want all things. In their diet they are parsimonious and abstemious, almost to admiration, for they seem to emulate (but not to imitate), herein to rival, if not to outdo, the strictest austerities, y^e strictest in religion. Their constant diet is only salt butter, herrings, and oat cakes, here made almost as thin as a paper leaf, yet as broad and large (if not exceeding) those in Wales. Their drink is either simple water, or water mixt with milk (which y^e Welch call glare dower) or at best butter milk; as for beer or ale there is none brewed by them except by some prime person among them, for this liquor they forbear to drink till they meet at markets, where they will as familiarly, and with as much facility, drive it down their throats, as any do in Duckland, for in their natures they are much given to computations, and therein to exceed. This abstemious diet is more strictly observed by their hired servants and day labourers. The hired servant's allowance at one meal is 2 boiled herrings, one entire oaten cake to eat, butter, with milk, or milk and water, to drink. The painfullest plowman there neither desireth nor expecteth either other or more food than this proportion at one meal; but they will exact so much

¹ *Epia. de Westphalia.*

whether they eat it or not, having gotten meat otherwise, either to sell or give away.

Their servants they there hire in markets, as we also have y^e same custom in many parts of England. In Berkshire it is called a fea-fare, at Henly, in Warwickshire, they call it a mapp, and in divers places it is called by divers other names, but all importing a market where men and maids in some towns are to be hired every year. The same hiring and changing of servants they have in Man, but differently, for we change but once in the year, they, in the Island of Man twice. If I mistake not, the maids are hired in the spring, the men at the fall of the leaf. But it were fit the reader shou'd be rectified concerning these Manksmen's parsimonious diet, lest they and myself shou'd be mistaken, for it is not penury y^t compels them, but covetousness y^t invites them to be thus contented and satisfied, not caring for gaiety of cloths or superfluities of viands, for they have store of bacon, fresh butter, geese, ducks, hens, capons, eggs, piggs, etc., to feed upon ; but these, together with their yarn and flax, and hemp, and honey, wax, etc., they make spare of both to make money thereof at their faires and markets, as also to exchange with their shopkeepers in the town for iron, starch, sope, candles, pitch, tarr, and with other commodities they want. But before I am disposed to proceed farther, I am disposed to shew you some other particulars concerning these Manksmen's dispositions, some y^t would seem statesmen¹ y^t do hold y^t Islanders y^t have y^e air and waters so diversly moving about them, neither peace nor war can long be well-come to their humours, and therefore must be governed by the active yet steddly hand of authority. To this Buchanan² seems to assent. Yet this general observation cannot be demonstrated in Man, for they are a people (tho' acknow-

¹ Sir Faulk Grevil, in y^e Life of Philip Sidney, p. 52.

² De rebus Scot., l. 1, p. 209.

ledged to be full of metal) yet not apt or prompt suddenly to be set on fire, not prompt to complain of pressures or desire innovations, for during the reign of former kings they had many provocations, yet only once or twice avenged themselves of strangers and tyrants. Dunold, the son of Tade, a tyrant, sent by Muccard O'Brian, King of Ireland, to govern during the minority of Olave, they expelled him in y^e 3d year of his reignment. This was a stranger who abused both the young king and them. I find not any one king by them deposed, or once opposed by them in the Island. Godred, the son of Olave, reigning peaceably, enjoyed peace, but returning victorious out of Ireland, elated with pride, in y^e puff and heat of his jollity began to tyrannize, yet the Island of Man did not offer to resist by rebelling, but Thirstin only, the most potent, being the son of Otter, in the Isle of Man, raised up an enemy against him in y^e Western Islands, one Dongdal, the son of Somerled, whereby he lost the kingdom of the Isles, and by him was driven out of the Island into Norway. These are a people sooner to be drawn by the ears than dragg'd by the cloths (easily persuaded, but with difficulty compelled), and therefore for above 240 years have they persevered in their loyalty, and have been constant idolaters of y^e Stanleys, who never forced, but rather courted their consent to any new laws and impositions. They never mutinied, never rebelled. Whensoever any levies or seizures are laid upon them, or distresses made, by any of the coroners or moors for the Ld's rents, duties, amercements, forfeitures, etc., or y^t his caterers do take upon any poultry or other provision for the Lord's table or houshold, at the Lord's price or rate, not a man in Man will so much as necessitate. Wherefore y^t character y^t was given (and is related by Plutarch) of Marius, his moyles, may fitly be applied unto these Manksmen, a people painful and willing to do whatsoever their Lords shall command, without grudging or reluctances.

These, in old times, were innocent from avarice, seeking only after necessities, not superfluities, and might truly be (as the Christians in the primitive times were called *Anargirii*) men without money, for untill our late king's reign they neither had nor desired the use of money, for they merchandised as in the Saturnical age, by racking, exchanging, and bartering of commodities, for in those dayes neither their king nor lords expected from them either money or rents, but services only, as I shall shew hereafter; but now they seem to be somewhat a little sublimed in their understandings, since these our late troubles, our many refuged and fugitives flying thither have so plentifully furnished them, as y^t many of them are now enabled to take leases of their houses, and to pay their rents and duties in money, which before they paid in sheep, hoggs, or other cattle and poultry.

The coin current in this island is almost all English; yet the Scottish 13½d., and their twopence, and their 5 shilling pieces minted at Dublin, do freely pass there. They have no proper coin. The Island never had any such, altho' the king of France's geographer,¹ abused by Dr. Merrick's relation in Cambden, saith that there had been particular species of money in this Isle, but now not used, for they neither have at present, nor ever had, any mint to coin money within y^t Island, whereof I am confident, and not without strong inducements.

The Lord Cook and Cambden say y^t in the Island of Man, as they have peculiar lawes, so they have a peculiar language. "Mon." Chesme saith the same; Humphrey Loyd and Cambden, y^t they speak Scottish and Irish; Mr. Heelin, y^t they speak half Irish and half Norwegian, all amiss, for with Lord Cook their language may well be called a peculiar speech, for it is not understood by any other though the nearest neighbours, as being a meer mixture of

¹ Andrew D. Chesme, *Hist. de Angliser*, etc., anno 1634.

the 4 bordering nations language compounded together. It hath most of the Irish, much of the Welch, but of Scots and English very little or none. The Manksmen do not acknowledge that the Northweigans have added any words to their language, and probably say aright, for tho' the Kings of Norway had y^e islands (but in possession of the Kings of Man) and held them in subjection many years, yet after King Magnus, who first conquered this Island, none of his successors, nor any of Norway, ever resided in this Island. As for their understanding and speaking of English, very few but understand our English, especially all the gentry, all in the towns, and such of the country as frequent their town, market, and fairs, but these speak it as a foreign and different language from their own, or as the vulgar Welsh speak English. But it is fit I shou'd remind my promise made in the preface of this work to verify my reader in divers particulars wherein Dr. Merrick, Bishop of Man, being himself, as it seemeth, misinformed, misrelated them ; so Mr. Cambden, and by y^t treatise of his of the British Isles, all since have been misled, to believe many strange untruths concerning this Island, y^t fault lieth only in the first relator, and I cannot impute any fault in Cambden, for who would not give credit to a bishop's relation of things in and concerning his own diocese.

Some untruths I have shewed before ;¹ 3 more I shall handle here ; the rest hereafter in their proper places.

First, y^t y^e women of the Island of Man going abroad they gird themselves about with their winding sheet y^t they purpose to be buried in, to shew themselves to be mindful of their mortality.² I met many so clothed in the Island I confess, and I questioned many of them to know the reason why they did wear them ; all answered me that they had no other intention but to keep themselves from the cold and from the

¹ C. 6. p. 42.

² Camb. Brit. Isles, p. 205. Bp. Merrick's relation.

bleake and boisterous weather and winds which indeed do much molest them all the winter months.

But Bishop Merrick's relation needs no other eviction than these 3 demonstrations. First, in the Island they are called neither sheets nor shrouds, but are called blankets.

2^{dly}. These blanketts there worn are as well of woollen as of linen cloth (yea y^e better sort of them in the country have one blanket for Sundays, another for working days, but all shrouds are of linnen).

3^{dly}. To take away all scruples and foreign conjectures (least it might be thought that these sheets might be in former times intended to make them their shrowds when they died), I will here satisfy you and demonstratively prove that these women never had nor cou'd have at any time any such intention, for I find among other their ancient and accustomed laws y^t from all antiquity it hath been there agreed upon for a law y^t Sunday blankets shall not be taken for Corbes (y^t is it shall not be issued amongst the mortuary goods), but y^t it shall go to the next child.¹ By this law it appeareth y^t from all antiquity neither the better nor the worser sort of these sheets or blankets (we will not differ upon the name) were at any time used or intended to be used for winding-sheets for the better sort, y^t is y^e Sunday blankets were to be given to the next child; the worser sort for the week day were taken for corbs, y^t is to be sold with the other goods of the deceased to pay debts and to be distributed where legacies were given.

I confidently believe the Manks women took up this custom of wearing blankets from the Irish, their old ancestors and near neighbours, who ever did and do wear mantles for warmth, and not from any relative conceit to make them their winding-sheet; and such a custom also in Wales have the poorer sort of women there to wear in winter men's short

¹ See l. 2, c. 25.

cloaks for the same reason, but observe this withal concerning these blankets, that they are only worn and used by the female peasantry of the country inhabitants of the Island of Man, for in the towns you shall not see any one woman (poor or rich) y^t do wear any at any time ; yet myself being there all the winter season, I did not see so much as any one y^t did wear them, so likewise in Wales they are the minor and meaner sort of women that wear men's clokes, the better sort never.

The other 2 untruths so confidently averred, wherein so many (whose easiness to give credit to so grave a relator) have been abused, are y^t those of Man are free from (yea detest both theft and begging), yea, Mercator addeth, from lying also. Concerning theft, there is no robbing in the highways. You may travail there securely in any part of the Island. Those y^t are good are a law to themselves, but if the Manks people were all such none of them wou'd attempt any such sin, for presently upon the attempt, there being no woods to shelter, and y^e cottages so contiguous, a little only remoted the one from the other, the thief is not sooner discovered, but may be pursued by y^e view ; only so as fear of discovery, apprehension, and punishment following, I presume may deter many of them from such open violence. But they of this Island (as we in our Island) are not impeccant, but men, and subject to the same infirmities ; for the poorer sort, there were of both sexes, are extremely given to pilfering, which manifestly appeareth by their extreme severe lawes made against stealing of ling, gorse, hay, geese, ducks, hens, robbing of gardens, cutting of beehives or of horse tails, as I shall shew you more at large in the last chapter of the 2^d Book of this history, where I shall treat of their customary laws.

Wherein it had been requisite y^t D^r. Merrick should have better inform'd himself before he had inform'd M^r. Cambden, who, relying upon his relation, maketh strange impressions in

all his readers.¹ But of all others I most admire the too credulous the Lord Cook, y^t he in this particular shou'd be misled, for questionless he could not be ignorant of a statute, tho' now expired, in Queen Elizabeth's reign,² himself being then a student in the Temple, *y^t no person shou'd bring over any rogues out of Ireland or y^e Isle of Man.* This statute evinceth that there were in this Island of Man vagabond rogues, thieves, and beggars, before Queen Eliz^a. reign, and we were annoyed by them being brought hither from thence. Now *for beggars at Douglas I found divers both of the natives and of the Irish; y^e natives of this Island were somewhat more civil,* the Irish more clamorous, but both bold, for the natives will not cry and beg at doors, but without knocking; if the doors be shut, they will draw y^e latchet, or if they find it open they will enter in, take a stool, and sit down before the midst of the fire, and then demand an alms. And let not this seem strange to any, seing our B^d Saviour himself hath told us y^t y^e poor shall always be with us, and amongst so many poor as be in Man you may well conceive some to be mandients.

As for the old imputations laid upon the Island by Ranulf, Monk of Chester, Geraldus Cambrensis, W^m. Harison, Caxton, etc., y^t the inhabitants of this Island were given to witchcraft, and sold wind to passengers and other such stuff, I omit to enlarge this chapter, withal seeing this was, but is not now, for of long time neither any are nor have been known to practice any witchcraft at all since their conversion to Christianity, nor noted for any such crime at this day as Bishop Merrick assured M^r. Cambden, but if any were, their sentence is to be burned.

¹ See Camb. l. 2, c. 25, p. 23. Thieves punished in Man with Death.

² 14 Eliz., ch. 4.

CHAPTER VIII.

OF Y^E TOWNS IN THE ISLAND OF MAN IN GENERAL.

PLUTARCH¹ would make no description of Agesilaus, because himself both living, and in his will had expressly forbidden any image to be made of him, the reason was because he had a deformity in his body which he desired might be concealed from posterity, being low of stature, and one of his legs was shorter than the other. Myself having undertaken in this first book to give you a true description of this Island, I cou'd wish I were not necessitated to represent unto you any deformity, desiring your eye shou'd rather see it than myself relate it, but the same being so obvious to the view of every passenger arriving there, it is impossible for me either to conceal it or pass it by ; or to palliate or to put any flattering varnish over it ; to represent it less unsightly than truly, tho' there are not many particulars in this Island which can be shewed you meriting your encomium, for in my opinion there is not any one thing in all the Island without an undervaluing thereof y^t you can dislike, unless it be the building in their towns which I observe makes y^t whole Island to seem to many to be of less esteem, and less respected, for did not this Island fail in its fabrics, it would by all be acknowledged for a complete Man.

From Beaumaris in Anglisey I arrived in Douglas, and had y^e full prospect of the town. I cou'd not sodainly satisfy myself otherwise than that the winds and waves of the sea had transported me as it were out of one part of Wales

¹ In the Life of Agesilaus.

into another ; the high heathy hills on each side of the haven, and y^e object before me of little low-built thatched houses, rudely and confusedly compacted together, did so really and naturally resemble the mountaneous part of Wales.

Then occurred to my memory the towns which King Hiram¹ disdained to receive of King Solomon, which he called Cabul (displeasing, dirty), but let me retire in time, for to write more here were to digress, for I am not here to describe any town in particular. In the subsequent chapter I shall perform y^t in this I am only to discourse of them in general ; here again I must disabuse my reader, who in this particular hath been misinformed, first by W^m. Harrison. I say who saith that in this Island there are 17 towns,² which are as many as are parishes there, and calleth them also near by the same names, but more modest and nearer truth is John Speed, who, in his abridgment of his Chronocle, saith they are but 5, yet named none of them ; but in his Theatre of Great Britain he hath set down 7, which are three more than the Manksmen will acknowledge, for Bala Cury, tho' it be the bishop's seat, yet it is no town, but a village, so also is Bala Saly and Laxy. There are at present but 4 towns acknowledged by the natives ; first and principle is Castle Town, the 2^d in repute is Douglas, y^e 3^d is Ramsay, the 4th is Peel.

These are all y^t are left by the ruins of time, but in old time they have no doubt been many more towns, far greater and more peopled, but cities also, for John Capgrave³ and John Bayles writ there was a city in the Isle of Man, wherein King Mordrajus resided, and it was called Sanackt, which some say by corruption was after called Sodor, whereof more in y^e 3^d book of this history. There was also another city, and y^t not a little one (saith my author⁴) in the east,

¹ 1 Kings, c. xix. v. 13.

² Descr. of Brit. pt. 1, c. 8.

³ In the Life of Joseph of Arimathea, cop^t. 2^d in Amphibalo.

⁴ Joselinus, vita Patricii.

inclining to the north part of the Island, in the parish of Kirk-Maghauld, and which bear his name, the ruins whereof (for it is now but a village) are yet there to be seen ; yet 2 great markets or faires are there kept every year, on y^t St.'s feast, as I shall show you hereafter. All the 4 towns are situated on the maritime parts of this Island, there is not one town within the continent of this Island, and every one of these towns hath a haven, and at every haven there is a castle, sconce, or blockhouse, of which in the subsequent chapter I shall discover more. There you may observe y^t 3 of these towns, viz., Ramsay, Douglas, and Castle Town are seated in the east side of the island. Peel Town is only seated on the west part. These 3 towns, namely, Douglas, Castle Town, and Peel, stand almost in a perfect triangle about 8 miles equal distant the one from the other ; Ramsay is 12 miles from Douglas, and about 19 miles from Castle Town, and almost as much to Peeltown, so as in case of necessity the distance is not great or long to give intelligence or send succours to relieve from one town to another. In every one of those 4 towns there is a free school to teach you ; this is maintained out of the revenues, which belonged to the religious houses at their suppression. It were to be wished y^t all our abbey lands had been employed to pious uses as these were here. These towns, for so I must call them, because they are commonly so called, are all of them very little ; an ox hide cut in little thongs measured out the ground, whereon Byrsa, the famous citadel of the Carthaginians was seated, and Castor, in Lincolnshire, and therefore in Policron¹ it is called Thongcaster. I suppose a cat's skin so extended wou'd treble encompass the greatest of these 4 towns, there being divers villages in England equalling and some surpassing the best of these in bulk, but far exceeding them in handsomeness of buildings and number of inhabitants. At a muster in

¹ See Camb. Lincoln. p. 542.

Douglas which emulates Castle Town, I observ'd at my being there that the number of those that were trained were not full one hundred. The houses in all these towns are of one fashion, low built, being not contiguous, much less continuous, in placing of 'em, observing no order either of uniformity or proportion, only Castle Town hath some little formality more than the rest. The materials of these structures are of small stones and lime, as those in the country which I described before, and thatch'd as those also, with this only difference, y^t these are 2 stories high, y^t is, they have an upper room above y^e lower, which the country houses for the most part have not, the lower rooms they call cellars, for they have none underground ; their upper rooms they call lofts, and they are long and narrow, which they thus order ; in the middle is y^e door, over against that on the other side there are commonly placed 2 beds at each end of the room, one on the other side, at y^e upper end of all is the chimney, some (and but some of these lofts are seiled over head and plastered), of these are let out unto passengers for lodging chambers, the doors and windows of their lofts are made very low, and y^e walls very thick, so as these rooms comonly are not so lightsome as you may desire, but of purpose are they thus contrived and for warmth, and to keep out the bitter cold and bleake winds which in the winter season are there very frequent and boisterous. Every town'sman there, tho' never so poor, hath commonly 2, but some which are y^e shop-keepers have 3 of these houses, whereof one is for himself and his family, both for his kitchen, dining, and lodging room for himself, wife, children, and servants ; the 2^d house in its upper part serveth for a warehouse, underneath is a shop ; in the 3^d house, below he placeth his barrels of beer, the barrl'd herrings, and powder'd beef, and for all other comodities wherewith he trafficketh, besides all his other lumber, the loft above is furnished to let out to passengers y^t arrive there,

or otherwise to feast his friends in and for entertainment. But of this relation you may make this observation, y^t tho' the houses in these towns were many, yet the inhabitants are few because of these 3 houses which y^e shopkeepers have, two of 'em are not inhabited, but are otherwise employed, and y^e owner and his family live only in y^e 3^d, there are many shopkeepers in every town.

There are not nor is there any need of signes to be hanged out, to show or demonstrate these houses to be inns or ale-houses, for for the most part every house there entertaineth lodgers, and is a kind of tavern, so y^e Welch stile all alehouses to sell drink, the best in these towns are but tradesmen, for not one gentleman hath an alehouse there as I noted before.

Having now in part showed you their towns, I am loth to leave them with such an impression of their unsightliness and deformity in their fabricks, therefore to encourage your hopes of a future bettering and amendment, the reformation is commenc'd, and example inviteth imitation, for in Castle Town and Douglas they lave to thatch and do tile their houses, and do add a garret unto their lofts, so as now they begin to see the commodity of building three stories high, whereby this deformity in short time will soon be reformed, but I dare presume prophetically to predict y^t when their mines shall be discovered, foreigners invited to set up manufactories, traffick shall be increased, shiping shall be multiplied, then their villages shall become towns, and their towns cities, etc. It remaineth only now to show a civility or rather a courtesy to you practised in this Island, which I have not observed nor seen to be used in y^t manner in any part of my travail, which is y^e formality here used at the reception of all passengers of what quality soever unto y^e towns of this Island, and in my opinion is necessary to be showed for the instruction of all such as either necessity compelleth or curiosity inviteth thither.

The continual watch kept on the Sceaful,¹ yea, also from the opposite sea shore, and y^e lords prospective glass on the battlements of his castle of Rushin, takes notice of your ship's approach long before your arrival, they thence curiously observe to what part you steer, thereby conjecturing into which of y^e lower parts or havens you purpose to put in ; the Governor of the Island is presently informed, thither doth he most commonly send the controul^r of the Island or some other of the lord's officers in post, who faileth not to be there at y^e same time of your ship's arrival, you no sooner set your foot on shore within the haven, but y^t y^e Constable of y^t fort accosteth you, and if he observe you to be a gentleman or one of greater quality, will civilly salute you and give you the parabun of your safe arrival, and altho' it be in effect a summons to appear, yet he inviteth and intreats you to be pleased to speak with the lord's officers, who do expect you at such a place hard by.

So you are by him conducted to a house in the town, which y^e lord of y^e Island hath for such and y^e like occasions, which are for his service, there you shall not fail to find sitting at a table not only y^e controul^r of y^e Island or other officers of y^e L^{ds}. (at my reception there was one of the Deemsters also, but I suppose he came casually), but 6 or 8 more of the best sort of the inhabitants of y^e town where you land, all bid you land, all bid you welcome thither, but you are more or less respected according to your quality. The townsmen you will find to be meer Athenians, their coming and communication being only to hear what news you will relate, it being then y^e time of troubles in England, and they will endeavour to pump you of all you know, but your discretion shou'd advise you so to order your discourse as to reserve the chiefest and choicest until such time as you shall and must appear before the Lord of the Island (if he then be there) and

¹ See lib. 1, ch. 12.

y^e Governor, but the Controuler is there amongst the rest, for other purposes he will say little, but will observe who you are, whence you came, and wherefore, etc. Thus are you entertained by these with very familiar conference, wine, beer, and tobacco, and in the close of all they will not appoint but recomend you, if you be not known otherwise directed from whence you came, to some convenient lodging.

This being to entertain and welcome you into the Island, and therefore they will not permit you to pay any part of the shot. If your arrival be at any time of y^e day (except it be too late), it will be expected y^t you presently make a journey to visit y^e Lord of y^e Island himself if he then be in y^e Island, as he was when I came thither,¹ or y^e Governor in Castle Town. But if you land in Castletown itself you have no journey to make but only up to the Castle and the Governor's house hard by. If you land at Douglas or Peel you have 8 miles to ride to Castle Town, but from Ramsay you have 19 miles at least to ride thither. And this they exact and expect of every one, of what quality soever, y^t cometh into this Island as a customary duty.

James, Earl of Darby, late Lord of y^e Island, was thus respectful of any gentleman, and therefore much more of any greater quality y^t arrived there in his time, I suppose the Governor, in the absence of the Lord of the Island, doth the same.

If you be unprovided of a horse of your own, y^e Controuler, as himself told me, by his place hath power, and will and did for me comand the constable of the Fort of Douglas, or of any fort where you land except it be in the haven of Castle Town, where the Lord of y^e Island and his Governor had his constant residence, for then it needeth not to provide and further you with a horse to transport you to them at y^e Lord's and without your charge. From the tower or turret of y^e

¹ 1643-1648.

castle of Rushin y^e time is observed, and into what part you make your entrance into Castle Town by a prospective glass, and no sooner shall you be descended from your horse but you are presently saluted and welcomed again into the Island by a gentleman of quality, who is sent unto you from the Lord himself, he inviteth and proffereth to conduct you into the castle, where you are admitted into the Lord's presence; he will only enquire of all occurrences, and what you have observed from any material passages in parts from whence you came, or have heard anything which concerneth any of the 3 neighbouring kingdoms, England, Scotland, or Ireland, or other where, if you have none or no more than you discovered before at your landing, which now is no news to him, the Controulr having certified him of all that you had discovered there, your audience then will be very short yet complimentary, for he will tell y^t he shall be desirous to speak with you another time, so you are dismiss.

Now the Governor expecteth you at his house, which is hard by over against the castle. The same gentleman y^t conducted you to the Lord doth now accompany you to y^e Governor. He receiveth you courteously and affably, according to your quality, but he knowing as much as you have to relate, he will frame his discourse as if he had no notice of you before, and as he examined you upon interrogatories—What you are? whence you came? and what your business is? how long you purpose to stay? etc., if you be a merchant what commodities you bring? what you intend to carry thence? and if he find y^t you vary in one point from what you related before at your landing, he will send for and examine every one of y^e company y^t came with you, and all those of your ship, etc., if not you are dismissed and free to return to the town from whence you came. I will say nothing of your entertainment in your lodging, for y^t is according to y^e disposition of those into whose houses you are received, whether cour-

teous, affable, and free, or otherwise, harsh, griping, and exactors. Myself and y^e entertainment, being recommended to a Scotchman by birth in Douglas which gave me very good satisfaction, affording me and my company a plentiful diet at an easy rate ; but I neither will nor can assure you y^t you shall find the same in all the houses there, altho' others have recommended to me their entertainment they had received as I had done of mine to them.

CHAPTER IX.

OF Y^e TOWNS IN PARTICULAR, THEIR SCITUATION, MANNER
OF GOVERNMENT, AND OF Y^e INHABITANTS THEREIN.

THE towns of the Island of Man are 4 in number as I said before, wherof the first and principal in former times was called Rushin, as seated by a russy bog, wherein is the Lord of the Island's castle seated, and is there at this day called Castletown. It hath a better prospect as you come from Douglas thither then any of the rest, the town standing upon the brow of a little rising assent, at the foot whereof is a clear water brook under the castle running into the haven. It hath 1 formal street, which containeth more in length than in breadth. Over against the castle is a handsome piazza, which is y^e market place, with a cross in the middle. At the upper end of this street is a little chapel for div. service, dedicated to the B^d Vⁿ Mary. In this chapel were buried Ragnold, son of Olave, King of Man, anno 1249, and his brother Magnus also, who succeeded him, and was interred there anno 1265, and some others.

Castletown is seated in the south-east part of the Island, almost against Liverpool in Lancashire. It is accounted the principal and court town, for the Lord of the Island, when he pleaseth to be there, hath his constant residence in his castle. There is also the Governor of the Island in a house over against the castle, and most of the Lord's principal officers in other houses of the town. Here are some of the sheeding courts kept in the months of May and September. On the Wednesday and Thursday is kept the court for the middle

sheeding, which consists of 3 parishes—namely, of Kirk-Bradán, St. Ann, and St. Marown. Upon Friday and Saturday in the same week are kept the Rushin court, which consist of the parishes of Kirk Molew, Kirk Arbery, and Kirk Christ of Rushin. Their assizes, or head court as they call it, is there kept also, as I may further inform you in y^e 2^d book of this history. In this town are all matters concerning the *bonum publicum* consulted upon, and from hence all posts are sent and dispatches made up upon any sudden and emergent occasion. If any of the towns cou'd deserve the title, this town above y^e rest might merit to be called the metropolis of the Island.

The next town in repute is Douglas, which in antient time was called Dufglas,¹ and by all is acknowledged for the second town of y^e Island. It is seated in the east side of y^e Island, and is accounted for y^e middle part of y^e Island,² for here they draw an imaginary line from Douglas to Péel cross y^e Island, to distinguish y^e jurisdiction of y^e 2 Deemsters, y^e one from Douglas northward the other from thence southward, yet Douglas, as it seemeth by the maps, inclines a little towards the south, and is opposite almost to the midst of Lancashire, against y^e mouth of y^e river of Ribble.

Cambden, and Mercator in his Atlas, hold Douglas to be best peopled of any in the Island, but I hold Castletown to have more inhabitants, but both say true y^t Douglas is more (yea most) frequented by reason it hath a haven far more commodious, safer, and easier to ride in than any other in the whole Island. In Douglas they have the same custom of building their houses as we have in Cumberland, but no where else y^t I know, for tho' the houses in both are 2 stories high, yet do they not go up out of the lower room into the loft above, for there are no stairs within whereby you might mount up thither, or whereby, from above, to descend into

¹ Monast. Ang., p. 74.

² Camb. Brit. Isles, p. 204.

the lower room or cellar as they call it, but if you desire to go up into the loft above you must ascend up thither by stony steps or stairs placed to the outside of the house, so at your going in or coming out you pass not thro' any other room nor any part of y^e house, but out of this room above, call it a chamber or any other name you please, you descend into the open court or highways, whether it rains or snows or in what weather soever. Twice in the year, in May or September, at Douglas is kept a kind of court but for the Garf sheeding, which containeth the 3 parishes of Kirk Maghald, Kirk Lonan, and Kirk Conchan. In anno 1192,¹ the Abbey of Russin was translated to Douglas, for so then was the now Douglas called, where it continues for four years only, and then returned to Rushin again.² I find not any religious to have been built in the town of Douglas itself. There is a house wherein a gentleman of an ancient family of the Calcots lives, which corruptly is called the Nunnery, but was indeed y^t place which divers writers mention and call it the Priory of Douglas, altho' y^e greatest want the townsmen of Douglas are sensible of is the want of a church for divine service, so as they are now forced to go to Kirk Conchan to serve God every Sunday. Concerning y^e haven and fort of Douglas, I shall at large discourse in the 11th ch. following.

The town of Ramsey hath always heretofore been accounted the 3d town of y^e Island, but it is at this day the least and poorest of them all, and scarce bearing the resemblance of a good village, for it is held no greater than Bala Sally, where the ruined abbey of Rushin standeth. This town putteth me in mind of an old city in Greece which had been great, but being decayed, the antient writers called it *Πολις & Πολις*, a city and no city. So this may be called a town and no town; but it hath been much greater about 24 or 25

¹ Camb. Brit. Isles, p. 209.

² Cron. of Man Monast. Angliæ, p. 411.

years ago, y^e sea overflowing its banks, carried away most of its houses, with a great part of y^e land whereupon the town was built. Ramsey lieth over against the south part of Cumberland, on the north-east side of the Island. In the old records it was called Ragnels Wath and Ragnol Wath, and it is still a market town. Concerning the haven of Ramsey, I shall have a more fit place to speak more in y^e 11th ch. following.

The 4th and last town of this Island is Peeltown, which Mr. Chaloner calleth *Hollam Town*, but the old name I find to have been, and by some of the natives is still called *Holm*¹ Sodor, wherein is a church built by Simon, Bishop of Sodor, anno 1247, dedicated to St. German, first bishop of the Island.² Peel Town is situated on the west side of the island, opposite to the province of Ulster, in Ireland, in the same parallel by Speed's³ description with Strangford haven in Ireland. At this town the Governors, Deemsters, and the Lords' officers do meet twice in the year, always beginning at Peel Town, to keep the court of the sheeding of Glanfaba, which containeth the 2 parishes of Kirk Patrick and Kirk German. Of late some other courts are kept also, and from thence they go to Douglas, etc.

Concerning y^e Haven of Peel (of the Isle of Peel I have said some thing before), and of the castle there, I have more to say when I shall come to discourse of the castles and forts of the Islands, in the 11th chap. following.

Concerning the government of these towns in the Isle of Man, you may think it strange y^t here are no major, bailifs, aldermen, no not so much as a recorder, town-clerk, or any serjeants with maces, etc., or any such formalities; neither indeed have they any use or need of these, for their towns, as they assimilate y^e villages in England for magnitude

¹ See *Monasticon Anglicanum*, p. 718. ² James Usser, de primor. Eccl. Brit.

³ Speed, Map of Man, in his Abridgment.

and bulk, so do they resemble them in their form of government, for as in England in our villages, if any misdemeanour be committed, the constable apprehends him and brings him before a justice of peace, who if he find him a delinquent, makes a mittimus, and sends him to the next goal, etc. ; so here if any riots be committed, or other abuses offered in any of these towns, if any of the Lord's officers be but then there, they all have every one of them power of a justice of peace ; or in their absence or neglect the constable of the next castle or fort may apprehend the delinquent and send him with a soldier, who are ever ready prest, and have an annual pension from the Lord of the Island to be here attendant for the guard of that place, and such like purposes as these, so he is presently conveyed to Castle Town to the Governor, before whom, and by him, he is instantly examined and sentenced. As for private injuries and injustices done to his neighbour which require a suit in law, they have redress by their customary laws in their sheeding courts twice in y^e year.

Now, concerning their manner of trading and commerce which they use with foreigners, which import any commodity which those in the Island do want, they have an excellent form and custom herein which is not only good but beneficial both to the strangers and to the natives of the Island, my patron,¹ with whom I was entertained ; being one of the most wealthy in the town of Douglas, he was chosen ever to be one of the 4 merchants y^t did manage y^t business, tho' I had taken certain notes from him, yet finding them not so well couched and digested as Mr. Chaloner hath set down,² I had rather use his words than my own.

“Concerning the islanders trading and commerce with other nations, yet finding this is the manner, there are 4 merchants which are ever chosen by the country, which choice is usually made at y^e Tinwald Court, and sworn by the Deemsters to

¹ Mr. John Murry.

² Descr. of Man, c. 3, pp. 30, 31.

deal truly and for y^e country's profit, when any ship laden with salt, wines, pitch, iron, or other commodities good for the use of the country comes to the Island, the Governor, having first consulted with the merchant stranger about rates and prices of the commoditie, he sends then for these 4 merchants of the country to appear before him and the merchant stranger, and drives a bargain if he can betwixt them. If he cannot agree, he commands the 4 merchants to spend another day with the merchant stranger, if they can, to deal with him, and whatsoever bargain is made by the 4 merchants, the country is to stand to it, and take the commodities of the merchant stranger, and pay for 'em ; and, according to the rates agreed upon, which most commonly is, y^t the country are to bring in their commodities of wool, hides, tallow, and such like, and for the same have their equal proportion of salt, wine, iron, pitch, etc., so brought in and compounded for as aforesaid ; and if the commodities brought in by the country will not extend to the value of the stranger's commodities, then the 4 merchants are to assess the rest of the commodities upon the country every one his equal proportion, for which they are to pay ready money as the 4 merchants had agreed upon for them, so by this means y^e merchant stranger is much encouraged to bring in necessary things for the Island, and y^e people have, by the faithfulness of their 4 merchants, the full benefit of the commodities brought in, which otherwise some private man of the country might and wou'd have taken for his own profit, and this is an especial benefit for enriching of the people and for the general good."

Now because these towns are so meanly manned, having so few inhabitants, their strength consisting in their forts, to prevent future inconveniences, and to supply this defect, as soon as any foreign ships of great burden, with many soldiers or passengers in them (being by tempest forced, or upon any cause

whatsoever), cast anchor in any of the havens of the islands, and enter into any of those towns, who may be suspected to demean themselves disorderly or to offer any abuses to the inhabitants, the country next adjoining to y^t town, as soon as their approach is perceived, are by their customary law as bound upon price of life and limb to haste thither armed, and to stay therein or thereabouts during the abode of y^t ship, and to keep watch and ward not only to prevent but also to deter those strangers from offering any injury and affronts. As concerning the inhabitants of these towns, they are of 2 sorts, natives and foreigners. I call all those foreigners w^{ch} are not born in the Isle of Man, as the English, who are here in the greatest number, Scots, Irish, and Welch. The English come over hither, some to serve the Lord of y^e Island, to have office or place under him, or to be of his household, as shall be shewed hereafter, and these for the major part are Lancashire or Cheshire men. Y^e Scots, Irish, and Welch, as the first most come to dwell there, some few to be shopkeepers, the others marry with the Manks women, so their children become natives. These foreigners, as I conceive, do make up y^e 4th, the natives born 3 parts, of the inhabitants of every town.

If any one who is a subject to the Crown of England desire to dwell in the Island upon any occasion whatsoever, he must have the leave of the Lord of the Island or of the Governor in the Lord's absence, and so are they received and entertained as if they had been natives born; but I observed, and to me seemed strange, y^t seeing no nation whatsoever are by any law or custom of the Island debarred or banished thence in old time by that law, hath since been obsoleted and out of use, y^t there is not so much as one Frenchman, Spaniard, or Dutchman y^t doth profess or exercise any manual trade either in of the towns or of the country, or hath any habitation there. These foreigners for their diet and apparel every

one pleaseth himself according to their own country, manner, and custom. These are civil, sociable, very industrious, but subtle, crafty, and envious one of another.

The natives in these towns are for the major part mariners and fishermen. Notwithstanding there are not to this day above 2 or 3 in a town y^t have little small boats or barks of their own wherewith they trade, transporting or importing of petty commodities. These do live well, but I observed y^t not one of them was reputed for to be rich above others in the town. Whereas it seems this Island was better stored in former times with shipping men with such as were called men of war, for Godred, son of Olive, king of Man, equipp'd¹ a naval fleet of 80 sail, and fought with Dungal, his sister's son, etc. Reynald² came out of Galloway with 5 ships and burnt all y^e shipping of his brother Olave and of the lords of Man. At S^t Patrick's Island, John Cursy, with his brother Reynold, king of Man and the Isles, arrived in Ulster³ with a hundred ships in the haven of Stanford, but it may be presum'd y^t the greatest part of y^t number was taken out of the north-west islands, for Reynald was both king of Man and king of the islands also. When Alexander, king of Scots, had by the valour of Alexander Stuard conquered the Isle of Man, he made up petty kings, saith Cambden, or princes therein, with this condition, y^t they should be always ready at his command to serve with 10 ships in his wars at sea; but Holingshead, out of the annals of Richard Southwell,⁴ saith they were bound to serve him with 13 ships and 500 mariners to succour the Scots when required. M^r. Daniel sth the little or no shipping of Wales, the hereditary defect of their ancestors, but this defect is much greater in Man, being an island which an ingenious observer⁵ truly noted, saying, the best walls for an island are made of wood, mean-

¹ Anno 1156.² Chron. of Man, c. 3, l. 2. Anno 1228.³ Anno 1266.⁴ Cron. of Scots, p. 392.⁵ Mr. Ja. Howel.

ing ships ; but were this defect supplied it would advantage much the supplying of many more defects there, but at this day there is neither man nor ship y^t may be called a man of war, which is belonging to the Island, nor any bark above 30 or 40 tuns at most.

The fishermen are there of 2 sorts ; the first are such as have boats and nets of their own ; these live and thrive with their fishing, especially of herrings. Y^e 2^d sort are such as assist the former, and are hired by them during y^t time of fishing, as shall be shewed in the subsequent chapter, these last being meer mariners y^t live most by the conducting of ships in y^t come to take harbour in the havens, and in carrying of passengers and merchants with their goods, in and out of the harbours ; these are miserably poor, subtle, servile of nature, without any conscience, exactors if you contract not with them beforehand, for these kind of men have *oculatus Manus*, and are guided, as Solomon saith, Conselio Manuum, as if their religion and reason consisted in the sence of feeling, their eyes and ears they employ how best to improve their touch. It was such mariners y^t the Egyptian priests so much abhorred as y^t they wou'd not only not vouchsafe to speak unto them, but not so much as to look upon them, as being a people cut off and separated from the society of men, by an element so boisterous, merciless, and contagious as the sea, and verily those harpies here seem very desirous to live by other men's losses, taking advantage of every shipwrack, stealing, and concealing, and purloining whatsoever they can lay hold off, altho' they know assuredly y^t they shall not only be punished, but compelled to make restitution also if discovered. The best trade or profession as you call it there is the shopkeepers who wth us are called mercers, haberdashers of small wares (because none as yet keep any shop there to sell any commodities but they) ; these there thrive most, they are the only merchants in the

Island, transporting beefe, sheep, corn, skins, hides, wool, flax, hemp, honey, wax, etc., besides barrelled cod, herring, powdered beef, thornback, ling, etc. They import whatsoever those of the Island do want, which is almost all manufactories, and especially woollen cloth, hats, stuffs for suits, besides bay salt to barrel up their herrings and powdered beef, herrings, and other fish, wool, coal, iron, pitch, tar, soap, starch, rosen, with many others, and therefore because they fetch them from England, they sell 'em again at double the rate that they are sold with us. Of manual trades in these townes there are but few, and those y^t are, very poor, and do but live, and no wonder, for they have none but the poorest trades, and such as are meerly for necessity, as an ordinary taylor, shoemaker, a weaver, and a smith, and of every one of these there is but one in every of the said towns. Now to demonstrate their poverty I will give you an instance in the smith. If a Manksman in the country have his plow-share to be mended, or any man's horse wanteth a shoe, or but a nail being loose, and either of these do come to make use of the smith, they must both bring coals to make the fire, and iron to make the shoe or nail, for the smith is not provided with either, yet will he exact extreamly for his labour, because he is assured you must make use of him, no other of that trade being there but himself.

But were there one Themistocles¹ y^t governed here who could of a little town make a great state, or y^t they here had the industry of the Hollander, who, having no native commodities, art and diligence excepted, yet abound with all things, but especially if Robert Hitchcock's plot for fishing, which he calleth his new year's gift to England, printed 1588, about y^e 22^d year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, which plot, tho' approved in parliament in the 18th year of her reign, succeeded not because it concerned the state of the

¹ Plutarch in the Life of Themistocles.

united provinces who have enriched themselves thereby, the queen having taken their protection upon her, and her princely counsellors being gained by pensions, it vanished, but might be revived again at any time. If God's time concurred, not only this Island of Man, but England also, might more abound with riches, honour, traffick, and shipping, etc.

CHAPTER X.

OF THEIR FISHING FOR HERRINGS IN THE ISLE OF MAN, THEIR
CUSTOM AND FORM OBSERV'D THEREIN.

THE principal commodity which the inhabitants of Man have in most abundance wherewith they traffick and transport to all the 4 neighbouring nations, and to y^e more southward, unto France, all along its north and west parts, and wherewith the less sort of Manks people of both sexes, both in the town and country, do every day constantly feed upon, is herrings.

The Manksmen begin their fishing for herrings about the latter end of August, and continue the same all the month of September.

By an antient custom of theirs, all the herrings y^t are taken ought to be brought to the highwater mark at y^t place; the first thing they do is to cast out the tithes or 10th part, which doth belong, and they give as a duty and an acknowledgement unto the Church, and y^t portion is there given to the proctor, for so they call him, altho' I presume his true denomination as it is beyond the seias is a procurator, who there without fail will be ready to receive it. The rest of the fish in every boat they divide into 8 parts, whereof he y^t furnisheth the nets hath 3 parts, he y^t is owner of the boat one part, the other 4 parts are subdivided among the fishermen y^t assisted to catch 'em, for in every boat y^t goeth out to fish there be 4 fishermen, so as if the owner of y^e boat be also owner of the nets, he hath the half of all y^e herrings y^t are taken in y^t boat and in that net.

There is a certain duty paid out of these herrings which are taken by the Manksmen in any part about the Island unto the Lord of y^e Island, which is thus ordered by an antient custom there.

If 5 meazs be caught by 1 boat (note, a meaz containeth y^e proportion of 500 herrings), then they give the Lord one meaze, if 10 meaz be taken by one boat, they are then to give the lord 2 meaz, y^t is 1000 herrings, then the lord can demand no more, for after y^t proportion being paid, they are free to take as many as they can without paying any more to the lord, altho' they shou'd afterwards catch 1000 meazes, and except 5 meazes be caught by one boat the L^d hath not any part at all. He y^t brings the first in care to the Lord at his castle at Rushin, by an antient custom the Lord is to give him 3sh. 4d. The rest of the herrings remaineth above the tithes, and the Lord's meazes are divided into 8 parts, and afterwards subdivided, according as was set down before.

The Lord of the Island hath no duty paid unto him of any other fish but of herrings only, but tithes are paid both of herrings and of any fish y^t is taken, as of cod, ling, macarel, thornback, etc. It belonged to the water bailif's place, who in this Island hath the power of an admiral in all maritime cases, to order all businesses concerning this herring fishery, to see y^t none do or receive any wrong during y^t season, as shall be showed in the sequent 2nd Book.

I suppose it will be as strange for the reader as it was for me, to observe it that these Manks people who have traded in herrings, even aborigine and the poorer sort, making them all the year long their daily and constant food, notwithstanding so respectless are they of variety of dressing them or to give them any other gust than their own natural taste, y^t they are so far from having any red herrings, that they know not what they mean, neither do they desire to know or learn how to make them. The fishermen complained much at my being

there, for of late years they have not taken half the quantity of herrings which they used to take in former times, and, moreover, y^t within the memory of some of them until of late they failed not to have great fishing for cods, of which they were accustomed to take in such plentiful abundance, as y^t they were enforced to cut off their heads, and to cast them away upon the shore, either for the poor or for any y^t would take them up, which they did, least their boat should be overladen and sink ; but now it is otherwise.

And no marvel if y^t be true which Gerald Cambrensis relateth, y^t those of the Island of Man were given to make mony of their fish, and wou'd not give away any in charity. And I find in a certain author y^t certain inhabitants of some islands in Germany near the Holy Land, were accustomed, about the year of our Saviour's birth, 1530, to take as many herrings as would sustain 2000 p'sons ; those mariners growing wanton, took a herring and whipped it till it died. Afterwards this sort of fish became so few and scarce in those parts, as that they found not so many as to feed 100 p'sons.

CHAPTER XI.

OF THE HAVENS, CASTLES, AND FORTRESSES, WITHIN
THE ISLE OF MAN.

INTENDING to shew you the strength of this Island I shall now speak of the havens, castles, and forts therein, for the Manksmen believe y^t in them consist their greatest safety and security (if the native mariners betray them), for this Island is as well fortified, strangely by nature, and strongly by art, naturally is environed round about not only with main rocks but also with rocky stones pointing up like unto the crocodile's teeth, broad at the bottom, but sharp pointed at the top. On each side, or mouth of the gullet, or mouth of every haven, just as far as the arm of the sea doth ebb and flow, in the Isle of Wight there are such stones which they there call needles, and in Jarsey they are called casquets, but besides such stones as these there are many others, some great and large, others less and ragged, y^t lie undiscoverable, under water, so as these havens are held to be the most dangerous to be attempted, y^t may any where be found, unless you make use of the Manks mariner to conduct you in.

By art it is fortified with castles, forts, and blockhouses, for as I shewed you before there are in this Island 4 towns. In every town there is a haven, and at y^e mouth of every haven there is either a castle or a fort, and in some places both; I shewed you also the benefit of the contiguity, or nearness of the one unto the other, so as you may say of this Island as Botarius saith of England, The whole Island is but one fortress.

Tho' Castletown be the principal town, yet Douglas is acknowledged to have the best, fairest, and securest haven of any other in all the Island, therefore shall it deservedly be described by me : this haven most inviting foreigners' conference, and therefore is the most frequented. Ships of great burthen may there cast anchor within the road under the shelter of 2 high rocks, mountains on each side, but if any do rashly presume to approach near unto the town without a Manks guide to conduct him, the ship is in an inevitable danger to miscarry by reason of latent rocks, on every side of the fort, lying undiscoverable either at the high or low water.

Douglas hath also a most considerable fort, strongly built of hard stone, round in form, upon which are a mounted tower, 4 pieces of ordinance. It is commanded by a constable and a lieutenant ; the constable and 2 of the soldiers which are there in continual pay, are bound to ly in this fort every night, and 4 of the townsmen are bound to keep watch and ward upon the rampart, where there is another great piece of ordinance,¹ ready mounted, cover'd from discovery, on the sea shore side betwixt the fort and the town, on the northern end of the road. I could not learn that there were more than 9 or 10 soldiers at y^e most in Douglas y^t had pay, neither was it much necessary to be at the expence of waging many more, seeing if any danger discovered itself, as I have hinted before, the whole country thereabouts are bound to repair thither upon pain of life and limb.

The haven of Castle Town, which Mr. Chaloner sometimes calleth Darby haven, is almost a mile from the town itself. Only little small boats do go up the narrow channel, from the haven into the town, and cast anchor almost under the castle walls. This haven beareth still the name of Ramsway or Reynald's Way. Cambden saith it was called Ragal Wath

¹ So yt a ship do rashly sail up towards the town it comes directly before the mouth of the cannon.

and Reynold Wath, it is 6 miles distant from Douglas, by water. Ships of a great burden may anchor there conveniently, but in a storm, not securely, for either a south-east or a south wind drives them upon rocks, shelves which are not visible during the tides, and many have miscarried; yet the fleet of Alexander the 3, king of Scotland anchored here¹ when he took possession of the Isle of Man, and drave out Mary, Queen of Man, the daughter and heir of Reynold, y^e last of the kings, whom the Manksmen call Orry's.

Castle Town is, as it were, doubly fortified, for besides the castle within the town, a little off upon a nook of land, on the south part as I remember of this haven of Ramsay, which is called Lanquet Point, the Lord James, Earl of Darby, hath built a little but a strong sconce or fort underground in the same fort as I observed as y^t which is at Swenberg in the Low Countries; and this sconce comandeth both the bay at Ramsay and secureth the river which out of the haven conveyeth the smaller vessels unto Castletown itself. The castle of Castle Town, comonly called Castle Rushin, is a fair, not very high, strong, and well-built structure, which so called, except because as the town seated near to the side of a rushy bogg, by whom and when built I may inform you hereafter. It hath a high tower, with a gallant prospect for discovery for many leagues of both sea and land. Here the Lord of the Island seems to be like a spider in his web, you cannot touch in any part of this Island but p[']ceived. This castle hath drawbridges within at your entrance and other secret defence, for there is a band of soldiers trained up and ready at an hour's warning upon any sudden occasion or suspicion of danger. A watch is there kept every night, and y^e bellman walks round about the castle. This castle is held to be the strongest and chiefest of all the Island. In the year 1313 this castle of Rushin was besieged by Robert,

¹ Anno 1266.

King of Scotland. One Dingany Dowil held it against him, but the King wan it, as Cambden saith, of which and of Castle Town itself you shall be farther informed of other particulars in the 2^d book of this history.

The bay of Ramsey hath a very large reception for ships, so as all of any burthen and many at once shall find easy entrance. The sea not long since overflowing, carried much of the land within the haven, with some houses also, as I related before, wherefore the ships find good entrance and anchorage, but not y^t shelter from winds nor that safe riding which is found at Douglas. The fort at Ramsey was but begun to be built when I retired out of the Island, an. 1648, The occasion moving the then James, Earle of Derby, to build it, was not solely the then troubles of England and Ireland, nor the fears and jealousies the Island had on every side of it, but there was a Scottish ship came into the haven 2 or 3 years before y^t robb'd and plundered not only the inhabitants of the town of Ramsey but of the country also thereabouts, and carried away a boat out of the haven and sold it at Knockfergus in Ireland, altho' the Earl of Darby procured of the Scotch Parliament reparation of the damages done and justice upon him y^t did it ; yet he did providently forsee y^t y^e like might be attempted in future times, so for the present he caused a few pieces of ordinance to be mounted and placed in places fitting to oppose a sudden attempt until a fort could be erected. Their Chronicles relate divers invasions to have been made upon this Island at this so spacious a harbour for ships lying open for an enemy without any means to make opposition. One example I have instanced in before of Godred Crovan, the son of Harold the Black, who entered at this haven and conquered the Island. The want of a fort in this haven was supplied heretofore only by a vigilant and continual watch and ward upon the coast on y^t side the Island, but not weakly to oppose or hinder his en-

trance therein. A fort was begun likewise at Ayre in the north of the Island, but now neglected and ruined, saith M^r. Chaloner, in his Des. of y^e Island of Man, c. 6, p. 32.

The haven of Peeltown neither admitteth nor therefore can secure ships of great burden, only small barks, because y^e channel betwixt this town and the island called Pile is very narrow, and therefore the sea is too boisterous at this haven, and therefore is seldom frequented but upon necessity, except only by reason of proximity. The Irish merchants frequent it more than others.

Anno 1648, there was a skonce begun to be built hard by this town of Peel, over against the castle of the opposite island, by the advice of S^r Arthur Ashton, to stop any relief which might be brought by boats in case the castle shou'd either rebel or be besieged.

This castle of Peel is by most writers called Peel Castle, and y^t fitly, for the little island wherein it stands, and the fortifications do there seem to make 1 pile. Cambden calleth it but a blockhouse, and in King Henry the 4th his grant of this Island of Man unto Henry, Earl of Northumberland, the words are those, of our especial grace we give to the Earl of Northumberland the Isle, Castle Pile, and seigniory of Man, etc., whereby it may be intimated that there is but one Castle of Rushen in the whole Island, and y^t Pile is none, but howsoever you will call it, it is only now called a castle, but reputed and acknowledged for the 2^d fortress of the Island. This castle is strongly fortified both by nature and art, by the sea round about it, and by walls and a rampart within it. Soldiers are there continually resident, observing a strict watch. It is cornanded by a Governor and other officers requisite, who never move thence. Y^e castle is so closely environed with the seas, as y^t the pinnacle which standeth in the court of the castle in a high tide the waves of the sea dash over the top thereof.

This castle is the common prison for all offenders within the whole Island, and not of this Island only, but the Kings of England, in imitation of the Roman Emperor, have heretofore banished hither, and here perpetually imprisoned sundry noble personages. Elinor Cobham, Dutches of Gloster was hither perpetually banished in the 19th year of King Henry the 6th, anno 1440, as Polycron relateth. Moreover, some years before Tho^s. Earl of Warwick, was sent by King Richard the 2^d, in the 21st year of his reign saith Stow, others say in y^e 22^d year, but I find by S^r Robert Cotton y^t S^r W^m Leescroop and S^r Stephen his brother were bound body for body safely to keep the s^d earl in the s^d isles, without departing thence, so as it seemeth he was not imprisoned in the castle but confined in the isle.

The 2 castles of Rushen and Peel are the principal fortification of the whole Island, both are always well victualled, well manned, well armed, and kept in very good reparations; all faults committed in either of these 2 garrisons are to be corrected by the constable of the castle, and not to be brought before the Deemsters, which I found in their customary laws.

I presume besides these havens there are many bays or inletts and creeks for small boats to land in, whereof Laxy Bay on the east of the Island is accounted the greatest port, Caran in the south-east, and others y^t are less remarkable; but let the adventurers beware for the best of these places are very dangerous, as some of our English confessed to me, who then fled from Anglisey thither, y^t they were more beholden to the humanity of the inhabitants than assisted by their own direction and wit, for they had otherwise perished.

Discoursing with some of the island which I knew to be men of understanding, concerning these 2 castles of Rushin and Peel, how they were managed, furnished, victualled, etc. I observ'd 2 witty inventions practised from antiquity by the kings and lords of this Island, which I shall here willingly

discover and insert, to show y^t petty states have something tho' petty policies yet not to be contemned, and it may be not unworthy to be taken into imitation by a greater. The first is how to lay a provision into these castles every year, without disbursing any money, or endamaging any natives, or giving the least occasion to them to murmur or to repine.

Every one of the islanders, according to the quantity of land which he possesseth, is bound to bring into these 2 castles of Rushin and Peel a certain quantity of meal, viz, of a quarter¹ of land they are to furnish the castle with a furred of oatmeal, which is but a 3^d or 4th part of a barrel. This proportion of meal is there found sufficient to furnish both these castles. This oatmeal is brought thither in April, and no man expecteth any mony for it, because they receive it out again, the same quantity in August following, when new corn will be ripe, after which time they lay in no more provision, for they fear no enemy in the winter, which after August here approacheth.

The 2^d invention is how they, without disbursing any mony, do still augment their armories in both those castles, every soldier upon his admittance (at his own charge) has to furnish himself with his arms, both a musket and a sword; when this soldier dies he cannot dispose of these, for they are seized on and laid up in the store house of the castles for the lord's use, for the better maintenance and defence of y^e Island, and this antient custom is declared to the soldier, before his admittance and upon his consent, and not otherwise he is not admitted.

CHAPTER XII.

OF THE CONTINUAL WATCH KEPT IN THE ISLE OF MAN, AND
THEIR CUSTOMARY LAWS CONCERNING THE SAME.

BESIDES the continual watches kept in every of the 4 towns, castles, and forts on each side of the Island, there are in several places watch and ward continually, very strictly to discover y^e approach of any ship, especially of any burden or bulk, unto any part of the Island, and unto whatsoever part they do observe them to steer their course. Thither presently are all the Manksmen of y^t part or quarter bound to repair unto in arms, upon pain of life and limb, notwithstanding of any landing of any long boats in any of their creeks, or in any part of the isle lying lower than the rest. On the west side of the Island there are the hills called the Watch Hills, commonly called the Ware Hills, which are about the upper part of Kirk Kirberry, very convenient for discovery of any ships approaching from the west between Ireland and this Island.

But from what part soever they come, they are perfectly descried from the top of the highest of their hills which is in the middle of the Island, which they call Sceaful. From thence, in serene weather, you may perfectly discover the 3 kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland. On this hill watch and ward is kept continually the day and night, winter and summer, and if any danger doth appear in any part, the beacon is set on fire immediately, and because the winds here blow cold and boisterous upon the summit of this

high hill, their antient laws and customs have made provision against such inconvenience ; for the widows of the Island are bound to disburse for the furnishing of those of the watch with fuel, both for the beacon and the warming of those y^t tend there day and night. The laws of watching and warding, as they call it, are very severe, and rigorously put in execution, for if any danger be discovered against any part of the Island, and any that do slow or make default it is loss of life, yea in their customary watches in any of their towns, altho' no danger is apparent or then feared. Yet if they do make default and not appearing at y^e watch, being commanded y^t the warden do make another in his room upon his failing, the 1st night he is to forfeit a weather, if he fail the 2^d night he forfeiteth a cow, if he fail the 3^d night he forfeiteth life and goods. There is no forfeiture to the warden, unless he do appoint another in the room of him y^t failed, otherwise all forfeits do belong to the Lord of the Island. All forfeitures are to be presented in court by a jury, or by sufficient witnesses, before the captain, y^t is the Governor, and the Lord's officers considering y^t the most forfeitures for watches stand upon life and goods. The watch of the night beginneth at the sun setting and continueth till the sun rising ; the day watch is from the sun rising unto the sun setting.

But besides the 17 parishes, do each parish every week thro'out the whole year muster, train, and have their arms. Every parish hath his captain, under whom are listed, disciplined, and armed, such as are meet for the war, of whom, saith Mr. Chaloner, *they have about 1500 ready* upon any occasion, and in case of necessity they might arm 5000 or 6000 men, to which I will not deliver my opinion. But in my judgment the strength of the Island doth not so much consist in its walls of water, castles, forts, watches, etc., as in that I observed the whole Island to be unanimously united. Every

man there is satisfied with that which he possesseth, none factious, all willingly and submissively obedient to the Lord and to his officers, as if all men were one Man.

END OF THE FIRST BOOK.



THE SECOND BOOK.



THE ISLE OF MAN.

NOW LET US SPEAK OF THE LITTLE, BUT YET
ANTIENT KINGDOM OF MAN.

THESE are not mine, but the words of y^e L^d Cook in Calvin's¹ case, and I shall observe his Lordship's expression for my method in the beginning of y^e 2^d Book of this Historical Description of the Isle of Man. First, to speak of this little kingdom of Man in general; 2^{dly}, to examine the antiquity thereof; and 3^{dly}, whether the kings of Man were absolutely denominated kings?

¹ Cook's Reports, l. 7, c. 21.

CHAPTER I.

DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS.

SECTION I.—OF THE LITTLE KINGDOM OF MAN IN GENERAL.

To be but little hath ever been accounted a disparagement. God Himself by the Prophet Samuel, used y^e Word as a reproof unto Saul, when thou wast little in thine own eyes, etc., and with what scorn did Goliah look upon little David, whereas he was but a stripling (as King Saul called him), but to be a little king is ever slighted, despised, if not contemned. Jehash, the grandchild of Jehu, king of 10 tribes, and half of Israel, disdained to be provoked to battle by Amaria, king of one tribe of Israel, alias Judah, and but a part of Benjamin, for he esteemed him a thistle, y^t dared to contend with him a Cedar y^t is one of 10 times greater in power and eminency. “Behold,” saith God, to the kingdom of Edom, “I have made thee little amongst the heathen, therefore thou art greatly despised ;” yea the Ephori¹ of Lacedemon presumed they had great reason to condemn their king Archidamus in a sum of money, for having married a little woman, saying he wou’d beget kinglings and demikings. And indeed the old axiom sagely advises never to make choice of little things, only of y^t which is evil.

This king is looked upon limited and contracted within this Island of Man (being so small a plot of ground as I have before delineated), his power and command must needs be

¹ Plutarch in y^e life of Agesilaus.

granted to be but little. Notwithstanding in former ages of divers y^t were stiled kings, that had a far less command than this (tho' little king of Man).

For the kings of Sodom and Gomorrha, Zeboim and Admah, and Bela, were but similar kings of cities only and the last, because the least, was by lot called a little one.

The lake now called Asphaltites and Mare Mortuum swallowed up 4 of these kingdoms, which lake is but 16 miles over and 70 miles in length, which, divided equally into 4 parts, the greatest could not have the command of any more than 35 in length and 4 in breadth.—*Sand's Travails*, l. 3, p. 142.

And therefore was afterwards named Zoar, for Zoar in the Syrian tongue signifieth a little one: neither were the kings of Jericho, Ayres, Hierusalem, Hebron, etc., to the number of 31 mentioned in Joshua, c. xii., be either of greater power or extent, the towns or cities from whence they assumed their titles;—more than these was the command of the kings of Man, for at least they commanded an entire island, and altho' islands in comparison of y^e continent are but little things (yea, God calleth them little things), yet many of these little things being but islands have had their kings, as is apparent in the prophecy of Ezekiel (speaking of the Island of Tyrus); is it then any more wonder if the Island of Man have had the ambition to bear the repute of a kingdom? and to have a king seing less than she hath had the same itch of honour. Ulysses's Island of Ithaca (now called Isola, and Valdel compare) containeth only 50 miles in circuit, whereas Man hath 40 miles more, namely 91 miles in its circumference; England is but half an island if Scotland be not joined to it. Yea, Graftan out of Fabian, and others say, there reigned 23 kings in England at one time, but I dwell too long on a little.

But we need not admire so much why these petty princes

(which are but toparks) have heretofore so much affected these titles, for it is in nature y^t many desire to domineer over others as Dyonisius the 2nd, tyrant of y^e Island Sicily, being driven out of his own kingdom turned schoolmaster, y^t seing he cou'd not rule or tyrannize over men he would at least tyrannize over boys. It was wittily said y^t the world in its youth did more affect honour than wealth, and rather titles than treasures, or territories ; and therefore were ambitious to become a monarch, tho' but of a mole-hill, howsoever the Island of Man is a kingdom. 1st, And so acknowledged and stiled by all the neighbouring kings, both of the Britons, Scots, Danes, Norweigans, etc. 2^{dly}, By all historiographers or writers whatsoever, either antient or modern, not one contradicting. 3^{dly}, Nay (what is most strange), one hundred years and more after the kings of Man had waved the title of kings, and had stiled themselves lords only of Man. It was not much above 50 years past solemnly adjudged, Trin. 4 Eliz. in a case between the 3 daughters and heirs of Ferdinando, and W^m. Earl of Darby (his brother), being heir male concerning the title of the Isle of Man—the case having been referred to the lord-keeper, the 2 chief justices of both benches, and y^e chief baron of the exchequer—where, in the 1st place, it unanimously resolved by them all y^t the Isle of Man is an antient kingdom, and no part of the kingdom of England. The Lord Cook produceth another proof (which it seemeth he much relieth upon), saying the King of Man having the patronage of the bishoprick is a visible mark of a kingdom, yet he seemeth somewhat to hesitate therein, because the Archbishop of Canterbury was patron of the bishoprick of Landaff, but he might have been advised that these 2 patronages were both of them *infra quatuor Maria*, within the dominion of a higher power to which both the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Earle of Gloster did acknowledge subjection ; but his particular instance in the

patronage (if he meant it of Sodor), is of more weight for Sodor, is seated out of the Isle of Man, in the Island of Iona, amongst the Western Islands this might be a visible mark of a regal power, for so our King Henry y^e 8th having conquered Tourney in Flanders,¹ had power to give and dispose of the bishoprick thereof to Tho^s. Wolsey, afterwards made Cardinal.

But besides all this both Walsingham and y^e Lord Cook (out of him) do testify y^t the Island of Man is not only a kingdom, but ennobled with this regal prerogative y^t whosoever is lord of Man of right may not only call himself king, but may cause himself to be crowned with a crown of gold.

SECTION II.—CONCERNING THE ANTIQUITY OF THE KINGS OF MAN.

THIS section may seem to some superfluous, seing none hitherto did ever deny this Island to be a kingdom. Walsingham in the reign of King Richard y^e 2^d plainly avers y^t it was a kingdom long before his time, the Lord Cook, as hath been shewed above in the 1st section, not only averreth it to be a kingdom but proved it to be so adjudged in Hilary 40 of Queen Elizabeth.

But of what antiquity, and whether this Island had any kings before the Conquest thereof by Magnus, king of Norway, we are now to discuss, for I find so much mistake. Holding y^t the Norweigan kings, seizing upon the Island of Man, made it a kingdom² about the time of our Saviour's incarnation 1098, which reacheth no higher than to our W^m. the 2^d, surnamed Rufus, not above 500 years past; but we have strong evidence to prove the antiquity of the kings of Man to be of a far higher descent. I presume that those who have this opinion have been misled by the Chronicle of Man, which they found in the latter end of Cambden's *Britannia*,

¹ Anno, 1513.

² Wm. Harrison, Descr. of Brit., p. 1. c. 8.

in his Treatise of the British Isles, and I shall set down in the subsequent chapter (whereas the monks of Rushin the compilers thereof). I intended to set down no more than the acts and civil dissensions only of the 12 kings which succeeded Magnus, King of Norway, notwithstanding those monks, and Cambden, J. Speed, and Helin following them, do all of them begin to catalogue the kings of Man, somewhat higher, namely, from Godred the son of Syrrick, king of Man, about anno 1065, which was y^e penultime year of our King Edward the Confessor, for after the said Godred there succeeded and intervened the reign of Fingal, Godred's son, and after him Godred the son of Harold y^e Black of Island, then Lagman his son, and Donold, an Irishman, y^t 3 years tyrannized, till driven out by the Manksmen, all these ruled and reigned in this Island 33 years before King Magnus arrived thither.

But I shall for the reader's more full satisfaction endeavour, by producing evident demonstration, to mount up much higher, and prove y^t kings in Man were long before any of these last-named, and therefore long before the coming of King Magnus¹ into the Island of Man, for King Edgar preceded King Edward the Confessor almost 100 years. During his reign there was a king in Man; his name was Macon,² and he was one of the 8 kings y^t rowed in King Edgar's boat, as I have shewed you before (L. 1. c. 1, p. 6.)

Almost 330 years before King Edgar reigned King Edwin the son of Ella, was king of Northumberland, he, saith V. Bede, conquered all the Isles of Brittanny, together with the Menanian Isles, whereof the Island of Man was accounted the first principle, and the Isle of Man is named by Huntington and Holingshead. Now altho' we find no king of Man named in King Edwin's Conquest, yet a king must be granted to be then in Man, for not long before the Conquest, about

¹ Anno 979.

² Anno 624.

the year 600, one Brennius, whom Buchanan calleth Brendinus, king of Man, who was kill'd in Scotland assisting king Aydan¹ against Brudius and his Picts, besides a full 100 years before King Edwin's reign King Arthur brought the Isle of Man into his subjection, and the king thereof was by Arthur honoured to be one of his Knights of the Round Table.² Let us yet mount up higher, an 100 years more before King Arthur's reign, tho' there at y^t time we find not any named a king, yet there was then an absolute government by bishops,³ the one succeeding the other, and they so established by St. Patrick their apostle, which bishops had plenary power and exercised regal authority, for they were instituted ad populum illius insulæ regendum et erudiendum, which they exercised over the whole Island, as y^e Manks papers and tradition have delivered unto us, and is by them confidently averred, but what credit we may give to this tradition I shall have occasion to discourse hereafter in a chapter apart. Now lest any shou'd yet scruple those bishops, if the Manks tradition be true, y^t they were the only absolute governours of this Island, which we shall examine hereafter, in its proper place, not to be kings. Let the reader observe y^t all absolute governors are in effect absolute kings, altho' they be not so stiled, for where there is no superior command the governor's power must be absolute. The Israelites had none of their governors y^t bare the name and title of a king, for 518 years after their coming out of Egypt, until the reign of King Saul. It is the power and the title y^t makes a king, for tho' Moses, Joshua, and especially the judges, had a supreme and absolute authority, yet did not any of them assume y^t title notwithstanding the Holy text in express words pronounceth them to be kings in 4 several places, in the Book of Judges, c. xvii. 6, c. xviii. 1, c. x. 1, c. xxi. 25.

¹ About Anno 510.

² Harding Cron. p. 64, c. 73.

³ About Anno 447.

But to proceed, before any bishops were in this Island, or the Island converted from Paganism to Christianity by St. Patrick, y^e Manks papers and tradition tell us of a Paynim king, a great necromancer, y^t had reigned many years in the Isle of Man, before his expulsion by St. Patrick ; his name was (as they say) Mana-man-mac-lea, Mr. Chaloner¹ calleth him Macbara, of whom the Mancksmen say the Island was called Man ; Cambden, out of Ninus, mentions one Buile y^t ruled in Man, in the time of Arcadius and Honorius emperors what was at least 24 years before Mana-man-mac-lea² I made mention of one Bordragius, whom divers held to be not only Governor but King of Man, who freed St. Joseph of Arimathea out of his troubles in Venedotia or North Wales.³

SECTION III.—WHETHER THE KINGS OF MAN WERE ABSOLUTE KINGS OR NOT.

That the King of Man is an absolute king is the assertion of the Lord Cook, not mine, yet how to dissent from him or contend with him I know not. But as St. Ambrose said of Aaron (with his greatest respect to his high priesthood) concerning the golden calf, tantu sacerdotem, etc., so I of so grave and great a lawyer being held a *lex loquens*, and besides a man so conversant in antient records, I say this much only, as I dare not censure him, so I dare not assent unto him. We must grant, I confess, in the rule and reigns of Bordrai, Buile, and Mana-man-mac-lea, y^e first y^t conquered the Isle of Man, as y^e Manksmen say, and all such as have had either the power to compel or the favour to be admitted to rule and reign, they were without doubt, at the first independent of any other, and therefore absolute ; but y^t this

¹ Descr. of the Isle of Man, c. 4, p. 9.

² About anno 413.

³ About anno 19. John Capgrave and Jo. Bales, etc.

little king of his little Man shou'd so continue for above 1200 years, is much more than most kingdoms, either of the islands or of the continent, can boast of. For surely all kingdoms and states (as the planets) have their exaltations and descendencies, and are no sooner at their zenith, but by degrees decline into their nader even to the next degree to nothing. If it be thus with potentates how much more and sooner with petty princes, for a laconical kingdom, because of its little comānd, can make but little resistance against a more potent power of an ambitious bordering prince's invasion. But I confess my fault, my respects oblige me to give his lordship presidency first to show what he produceth for proof. In Calvin's case,¹ in y^e 6th year of the reign of King James, he there maketh mention of an authentical record, of many which saith he could have produced. To this effect King Henry y^e 3^d in y^e 34th year of his reign, by his letters patents,² gave license (upon his petition) to Arrolld. It may be the transcriber of his record did mistake a letter and wrote Artold for Arrolld, for his true name was Harrold, the name of Artold being not to be found in any cronocle. A King of Man to come into England to perform certain things due unto the Crown, etc. The Lord Cook comēting hereupon saith y^t his license proveth him to be an absolute king. For, saith he, an absolute monarch or prince cannot come into England without license of the king, but the subject of any prince, or king being in league with the prince or king he might have added, or of any of the king's own subjects, may come without a license. Wherefore, in the first place, I am obliged to answer to the letters patents which gave license to the King of Man to come into England, which to me seem to insinuate y^t Harrold (or Artold, let his lordship call him as he pleaseth, for we will not differ or dispute upon the orthography of the name) was rather a subject of King Henry's than

¹ Cook's Reports, l. 7, p. 25.

² Anno 1249.

a sovereign substituting of himself, for hereby license is given by the king to him to come into England to perform certain things due unto the king, y^e words rightly translated are to perform unto us who ought to perform,¹ which be no other than to render to the king his homage and fealty for the Island of Man, and y^t most probably for the father of this Harrold, whose name was Olave, but ignorantly by some called Allain, King of Man, became leigman, saith Cambden,² unto King John, thereby acknowledging that he held y^e Island of Man of him ; this king John was father and predecessor to King Henry y^e 3^d who therefore had great reason to expect from Harrold the son of Olave y^e same duty to be performed unto him, which Olive his father had performed to King John, father to King Henry, but it may be held strange y^t Harrold fewdery of the kings of England, and acknowledging subjection to them, shou'd scruple his reception into England, who but a few years before, namely, in the year 1242 as M^r. Cambden, but more truly in the year 1246, on easter day, was, saith Mat. Paris, not only kindly admitted into England, but feasted and knighted by this King Henry, but the answer is obvious, for but one year after this kindness and caressing receiv'd from King Henry, Harrold, upon the invitation of Hacco, King of Norway, sailed thither and there married Hacco's daughter, and stayed there two full years. Hereby Harrold knew y^t he had given King Henry great cause of jealousy, for our King Henry knew y^t the kings of Man had acknowledged a subjection to the kings of Norway ever since the conquest of the Northern Isles, together with y^e Isle of Man by Magnus, y^e son of Olave, King of Norway, in An. 1098. Wherefore a license was necessary to precede him coming, and probably to facilitate the same, and y^e better to satisfy King Henry, he might in his petition promise to perform this duty unto the king at his coming, which had

¹ Ad faciendum nobis quod facere debet.

² De Insulis Brit., p. 213.

been omitted before, but whatsoever he meant to have performed nothing was effected, for in this very year when this license was granted, Harrold was, with his wife and company, returning out of Norway, perished by shipwrack upon the coast of Scotland.¹ 2^{dly}, The L^d Cook was not well advised to produce this license to prove Harrold for an absolute king, for this Harrold, succeeding his father Olave at the age of 14 years, he had reigned about 1 year when the King of Norway, saith Holinshead, deposed him, and, saith M^r. Cambden, it was 2 years before he restored him,² for the King of Norway sent Gospatrick and Gillescrist, who by force kept him out of the Island, because, saith the Cronocle of Man, he refused to come to the King of Norway's court; how then can Harrold be an absolute king, seeing another king had lawful and superior power to oust him and to admit him again into his kingdom, I say a supream, superior, and lawful power, whereof the L^d Cook, being so great a reader of antiquity and cronocles, could not be ignorant y^t the kings of Man were in those days tributaries to the Norweigan kings, being bound to pay a tribute of 10 marks of gold, to be tendered at the coronation of every king of Norway, neither were they more at liberty or in better estate during the reigns of the Scots after them, for Holinshed saith they were not admitted to be called kings, but were stiled lieutenants, yet Cambden saith y^t Alexander, King of the Scots, placed kings in Man, not absolute but reguli petty kings, and those to serve him with so many ships and mariners as I have noted before; or when our English had conquered it afterwards from the Scots, for tho' our king admitted 'em to be stiled kings, yea, and to be crowned, yet they were obliged, besides their homage and fealty, to perform certain duties and services, a manifest demonstration of their subjection to the crown of England, as I shall have occasion to set down in the sequel

¹ Anno 1249.

² About anno 1283.

of this history more at large. Besides, can any man believe y^t if Macon, King of Man, had held himself to be an absolute king, y^t he wou^d have lugged at an oar at the command of any other king whatsoever, especially when the design was purposely acted to express and demonstrate the subjection of those 8 kings, and y^e absolute sovereignty of King Edgar over them all by the guiding of the stern. Some, peradventure, may suppose y^t they are not admitted to be absolute kings of Man, yet that they are absolute kings in Man. Some of the Manksmen told me y^t y^e last Henry of the house of Darby being summoned by writ to come over to a parliament in England, in Queen Elizabeth's reign the writ stiling him King of Man, made scruple to go, until by another writ he was stiled King in Man, which putteth me in mind of what I have read of Pope Gregory y^e 7th, who being solicited to make the Grand Duke of Florence a king, said he was content he shou^d be a king in Tuscany, but not king of Tuscany, thereby advising him, being his nephew if I well remember, y^t it was a more glorious thing to be a grand duke than a petty king. But this distinction is too weak to make a king in Man absolute, and herein I shall be content to refer this to be judged and decided by my L^d Cook himself; for in his 4th Book of Instances (wherein he directly opposeth his own assertion in case) he thus saith, if any injustice or injury be done to any of the king's subjects there (in the Isle of Man), the King of England may grant a comission for redress thereof, and there he citeth a record of authenticacy and near the same antiquity with his license which we have so much insisted upon, both being taken out of the records of the tower, y^t this license, being in the 34th of King Henry¹ y^e 3^d this in the 20th year of his son Edward, the first being above 350 years ago, which I now forbear to set down, reserv-

¹ Anno 1249.

ing it for a more fitting occasion which will be offered unto me in the latter end of this 2^d book of y^e history.

So as by the L^d Cook's own concession, it is apparent y^t a king of England is a more absolute king of Man than any other king in Man, and M^r. Hobb's maxim will be approved by all; he whose authority is limited is no king but a viceroy, and is the subject of him y^t limiteth him.

CHAPTER II.

OF THE KINGS OF MAN IN GENERAL, AND OF THE EXTENT OF
THEIR POWER AND DOMINION OF THE WESTERN ISLANDS,
CALLED HEBRIDES.

THESE, therefore, were kings, tho' not monarchs and crowned, tho' not anointed, exercising *jura regalia* with as much command in Man, and as large a latitude as any other king whatsoever did or cou'd desire, the particulars whereof, both how and in what manner, I hear forbear to set down, because a fitter opportunity will be offered me, when I shall shew you the power of the Lord of Man in Man. In this chapter my intention is only to shew the extent of their power and dominion, which apparently was more without than within the Isle of Man itself.

Many wars and endeavours have the Kings of Man made to enlarge their dominions, not only in Venedotia with the Kings of North Wales (especially in Anglisey), but also in Ireland, wherein Godred, the son of Olive, King of Man, had gotten footing,¹ was crowned king in Dublin, and had subdued a great part of Leinster (as I touched before), but he left it not to his successors.

Neither do I find that any of their attempts did prove so effectual as in their endeavours to conquer their neighbouring islands, the Hebrides, over whom they have ruled almost ab origine, for then the Island of Man was called Eubonia, and all those islands being subject to the Kings of Man were in those days called *Insulæ Eubonia*, as much as to say islands

¹ About 1147.

belonging to Eubonia, y^t is to the Island of Man, and therefore Macon, King of Man, was, also by Stow and Harrison,¹ called king of many islands, besides the Manksmen have a tradition y^t whereas there always have been 24 Keys in the Island of Man, 8 of these were chosen out of those out islands, as they call them, which sheweth the power and command y^e Kings of Man had over 'em in those days. Therefore they are much mistaken y^t publish the Manks kings not to have had any power over these islands until they were impowered by Magnus, King of Norway, in the year 1098. But now it is fit here y^t I shou'd shew you islands these Hebrides are over, whom the Kings of Man have so long ruled and held in subjection, their names, their number, etc.

Pliny, Solinus, and Ptolemy call them the Hebrides, which the Scotch cronoclers say were so called of one Heber, the son of King Gathebis, and from thence corruptly called Hubude or Hebride; this last Buchanan disalloweth,² as having no ground, yet Pliny, Solinus, and other antient authors from thence not only call them Hebude, but Acnude and Ebude; this last Cambden rather supposeth to come from Ebrid, which in the British tongue signifieth as much as to say sine frugibus, without corn. He also, wth others, conjectureth y^t these names have some consonant affinity with Epedium, a promontory opposite to these in Brittain. Some antient Ethincks called those islands Betorica, which Mercator in his atlas writeth Beteorocæ, and mentioneth the name of Ethicus.

During the reign of the primitive Scots over them, they were called Inch Gall, y^t is peradventure as Cambden supposeth the Isles of Gallicanes, and hence it may be y^t Guiraldus Cambrensis, might call 'em Inchades and Leucades. After S^t Columbus came to reside in one of these islets, which then was called Hy and Hu, but now it beareth the

¹ Wm. Harrison and others, Descr. of Brit. l. 1, c. 8.

² De Reb. Scotia, l. 1, p. 24.

name of Iona, and having there built a monastery,¹ with a cathedral church in a village thereof, which is called Sodor. In process of time it was the bishop's seat of all the islands, having entire jurisdiction over all these islands, whence these islands were called *Insulæ Sodorenses*, as I shall more largely shew in the 3^d part of this history.

Paulus Orosius calleth them *Insulæ Manaviæ*,² but Beda more truly calleth them *Insulæ Mevaniæ*. But at this day both Scots and English call them *Insulæ Occidentales*, the Western Islands, the inhabitants thereof are called redshanks, and in old time rough-footed Scots, because they went bare-footed, clad in mantles over their saffron shirts, and spoke good Irish, saith Holingshead, but in the primitive times they were called Picts, Katerons, and Irish Scots.

These islands are situated in the north-west part of the Island of Man, and in the south part of Scotland in the Irish Sea.

These authors y^t would needs make the Island of Man not only to be one of the western isles, but also the first of them do make Hirta to be y^e last, the distance betwixt by Hector Boetius is 300 miles, by W^m. Harrison 377 miles. W^m. of Malmsbury supposeth this Isle of Anglisey to be one of these, and belonging to these Hebrides or Western Isles, but I find none nor reason itself to side with him. Now concerning their number, Ptolemy and Pliny say only y^t they are more than 30, the Archbishop of Armagh 31, Hector Boetius and Speed, wth Ribroughton, 43, Philip Cluveri and Peter Helin 44; all these came far short. Cambden believeth the number to be more than any of these have set down, and with reason, for Donald Munro (who visited them all in person, and made a journey expressly to the end), and out of him Bucanan and John Maxwell, in his Abridgment of the Scotch Cronicles, do all affirm them to be more than 300,

¹ V. Bede, l. 5, c. 23.

² Camb. B. Isles, p. 204 and p. 215.

and 2 of these, namely, Munro and Maxwell, have set down the names, situation, and commodities of every one of 'em in particular. But of these 300 there are only 4 of 'em y^t are of any noted magnitude, whereof some seem to exceed Man, others to equal it, but the rest though many are observed to be only inconsiderable islets, these 4 principle are—

1. The Sky, antiently called Hebuda y^e Eastern, and by the Manksmen Lodhus, 40 miles in length; its breadth is 8 miles, in some places 10 and 16 miles.

2^d. Mula, which Ptolomy calleth Maleos, or by Pliny Mella, is 24 miles in length, and as much in breadth.

3^d. Ila is 24 miles in length and 16 in its breadth, which Cambden avoucheth to be the old Epidium, y^t is y^e Isle of y^e Epedii.

4. Arran, which is of the same length and breadth of Ila. Some¹ will have the little island or islet rather of Iona to be y^e 2^d island of all y^e Hebrides, and W^m. Harrison saith² it is above 20 miles long and 10 miles in breadth, but both are much mistaken, for Iona is but 2 miles in length and something more than 1 in breadth. Ven Bede saith it consisteth as it were of 5 families, as I shall demonstrate in the 3^d book of this history, notwithstanding I acknowledge for respect and repute it hath ever had precedency before any, yea before all the rest.

Notwithstanding tho' y^e kings of Man did for the space of 160 years, as many say, or for 200 years, as Buchanan, or for 1200 years, as I have before demonstrated, style themselves kings of Man and of the islands, yet all these islands of the Hebrides were not all of 'em always under their subjection³ untill they had obtain'd them thro' the indulgency of the Kings of Norway, for I find both in Holinshead out of Richard Southwel his Annals and y^e Manks Cronicle y^t

¹ P. Helin. Hist. of y^e World.

² Deser. of Brit., l. 7, c. 8, p. 17.

³ Helin. de Rebus Scoticis, l. 1, p. 24.

Somerled, Prince of Heringaidel, who had married the natural daughter of Olive, the son of Godred Crovan, King of Man, held and possess'd a great part of these islands ; and his son Dongdal, saith Cambden and y^e same Manks Cronicle, having conquered all these islands, he afterwards, by composition with Godred, obtained a full moyle of them all, and possess'd them quietly. So, as so long as y^e power and assistance of y^e kings of Norway was able to support the Manks kings, they totally possess'd all these islands ; but 200 years after, when neither the King of Norway nor the Kings of Man were able to resist the sudden surprise of 'em all made by Alexander the 3^d, King of the Scots, they then were totally outed out of them all ; and what King Magnus, an. 1098, conquered for them, in the reign of another King Magnus about anno 1266, they totally lost them all, for this last Magnus surrender'd all his right and title unto all these islands, yea to Man itself, for the sum of 400 marks sterling and a pension of 2000 marks annually, to be paid in the nature of a tribute, their children to marry, etc.

But tho' these kings of Man were thus outed out of their possessions of those isles even to this day, yet they have ever since been curious to eternize their title to them, still stiling themselves Lords of Man and of the Isles.

I will here add one observation more as a corallory concerning these Western Isles (the Hebrides), that they have for almost 300 years' space always belonged to the eldest son of the kings of Scotland, as the principality of Wales hath been to the eldest son of y^e kings of England. For thus have I seen the title of Prince Charles set down in his father King James's reign :—

Charles, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwal, York, Albany, Rothsay, Marquis of Ormand, Earl of Ross and Chester,¹ Baron of Ardmanack and Ranfrow, Great Marshal of Scotland, and

¹ Some copies add Earl of Carrick.

Lord of the Isles thereof, Knight of the Noble Order of the Garter.

You may here farther observe y^t these islands, whereof the Scots will have Man to be one, and give it the honour of having the first place amongst them, yet all these isles put together are not reckon'd here with any of the titles of honour, but after the baronages only as a lordship, and so Man is not named but inclusively.

CHAPTER III.

THE CRONOCLE OF THE ISLE OF MAN TAKEN OUT OF
MR. CAMBDEN OF THE BRITISH ISLES.¹

THIS Cronicle, for so it is stiled by the monks of Rushin (who are held to be the compilers thereof), both Mr. Cambden and John Speed have thought fit to insert into their treatises of the Isle of Man, and therefore I presume I may be likewise permitted to insert it here, for the more ready and easy satisfaction of the reader upon any occasion offered (as I shall have many) either of proving, citing, or quoting of the same in any part of the history.

Anno Dom. 1065. Edward of blessed memory, King of England, departed this life, and Harrold the son of Godwin succeeded him, against whom Harrold Harfager (King of Norway) came into y^e field and fought a battle at Stamford Bridge, but the English obtained the victory, and put them all to flight, out of which chase Godred, surnamed Crovan, the son of Harold the Black of Iceland, came up unto Godred the son of Sytric, who reigned then in Man, and honourably received him. The same year William the bastard conquered England, and Godred the son of Sytric died; his son Fingal succeeded him.

Anno 1066. Godred Crovan assembled a great fleet and came to Man, and fought with the people of the land, but

¹ ["The Chronicle of Man and the Sudreys," with Historical Notes by the late Professor Munch, revised, etc., by the Right Rev. Dr. Goss, is published in the Manx Society's Series, Vols. xxii. and xxiii. 1874.—Editor.]

was overcome. The 2^d time renewing his forces and his fleet, he sailed into Man and joined battle with the Manksmen, but was vanquished as before and driven out of the field ; howbeit what he cou'd not at first bring to pass with power in those 2 several times or onsets he afterwards effected by policy, for the 3^d time, gathering together a great multitude, he arrived by night in the haven called Ramsey, and hid 300 men in a wood which stood in the hollow brow of an hill called Sceaful. The sun being risen the Manksmen put their people in order of battle, and with a violent charge encountered with Godred. The fight was hot for a time and stood in a doubtful suspence, till those 300 men, starting out of the ambush behind their backs, began to foil the Manksmen, put them to the worst and made them to fly, who seeing themselves thus discomfited, and finding no place of refuge to escape, for the sea water coming in with the tide had filled y^e channel of Ramsey river, and the enemies on the other side followed hard by chase, they that then remained alive took up a pitiful cry and besought Godred to save their lives. He moved with compassion pitying their woful calamity (as for a certain time had been nourished and brought up amongst 'em), sounded a retreat, and forbad his host to pursue them any longer. Godred the morrow after proposed this choice unto his own army, whether they wou'd rather divide Man amongst themselves and therein dwell, or only take the substance and pillage of the country and so return unto their homes ; but those chose rather to waste and spoil the whole Island, and with the goods thereof to enrich themselves and so return home ; but Godred himself with those few islanders inhabited the south part of the Island, and granted to the remains of the Manksmen y^t north part, with this covenant and condition, y^t none of them shou'd at any time venture or presume to challenge any part of the land by right of inheritance, whereby it came to pass y^t unto this day the whole

Isle is the king's demesne alone, and all the revenues thereof belonging to the Crown. Godred then reduced Dublin and a great part of Leinster under his subjection ; as for the western Scots he so overawed them as y^t no man who built either ship or cockboat durst drive into it above 3 nails. Now he reigned 16 years, and died in the island called Yle ; he left behind him verily 3 sons, Lagman, Harrold, and Olive.

Lagman, the eldest, taking upon him the kingdom, reigned 7 years, and Harrold, his brother, a great while rebelled against him ; but at length being taken prisoner by Lagman, he had his members of generation cut off, and his eyes put out of his head ; after this Lagman repenting y^t he had pulled out his brother's eyes, gave over his kingdom of his own accord, and, wearing the badge of the Lord's Cross, took a journey to Jerusalem, in which he died an. 1057. All the nobles and lords of the Isle hearing of the death of Lagman, dispatch'd 3 ambassadors to Murcard O'Brian, King of Ireland, requesting y^t he would send some industrious and worthy man of the blood royal to be their king, untill Olive Godred's son came to full age. Y^e king very willingly yielded to their requests, and sent unto them one Donnald the son of Tade, warning and charging him to govern the kingdom (which by right belonged to another) with all gentleness and modesty ; but he, after he was come to y^e crown, not weighing the charge y^t his lord and master gave him, abused his place, and lorded it with great tyranny, and so committing many outrages and villanies reigned 3 years, then all the princes of the islands, agreed together in one conspiracy, rose up against him, and expelled him out of their coasts, who fled into Ireland, and never look'd them in the face after.

Anno 1077, one Ingemond was sent from the King of Norway, to take upon him the dominion of the islands, and when he was come to the Island Lodhus, he sent messengers to all the nobles of the islands, with a comãd that they

shou'd meet together and crown him their king. Meanwhile himself, with his company, did nothing else but rob, spoil, make good cheer, and banquet, dishonour and abuse married wives, deflowered maids, yea, and gave himself to filthy pleasures, and fleshly lusts. But when tidings thereof came to the nobles of the land, now assembled to make him king, they were set on fire with furious wrath, and sped themselves in all haste towards him, and surprizing him in the night, burnt y^t house wherein he was, and with fire and sword made a quick dispatch of him and his company.

Anno 1098, the abby of St. Mary, at Cistertium or Cistèaux, was founded. Antioch was won by y^e Christians, and a comet or blazing star appeared. The same year there was a field fought between those of the Isle of Man, at Stanway, and the northern men got y^e victory; in which battle were slain Earl Other and Marmaras, generals on both sides. In this same year Magnus, King of Norway, y^e son of Olive, the son of Harrold Harfargor, desirous to try whether the corps of St. Olave, king and martyr, remained uncorrupt, commanded y^t his tomb shou'd be opened, and notwithstanding the bishop and clergy withstood it, the king himself came boldly thither, and by force y^t he brought thither with him caused y^e coffin to be opened. Now, when he had both seen and handled the body incorrupt, and nothing perished, suddenly there was a great fear fell upon him, and in all haste he departed thence.

The next night following, Olive, king and martyr, appeared to him in a dream, saying thus,—“Chuse thou one of these 2 things, either to lose thy life and kingdom, both within 30 days, or to depart from Norway and never see it again.” When the king awoke he called unto him his princes and elders, and declared unto them his dream and vision, and they, being sore afraid, gave him this council, to depart with all speed out of Norway; he without delay caused a fleet to be

rigged, and put in readiness, of an 160 sail, and cutteth over to the Isles of Orkney, which he forthwith subdued,¹ and making way, by dint of sword, thro'out all the Isles, and bringing them to his subjection, went forwards still, as far as to Man, and when he arriv'd and landed here, came into St. Patrick's Isle, to see the place wherein the field had been fought, a little before, between the Manksmen, because, as yet, many of their bodies lay there unburied. Now, when he saw this most goodly and beautiful Island, it pleased his eye, and he chose to seat himself therein, built fortresses which unto this day carry his name, and those of Galloway he held in so great awe, that he compelled them to cut down wood, and to bring it to the shore, y^t therewith he might build his forts and bulwarks. To Anglisey, then called Menia (an island in Wales, he sailed, and found in it 2 earls, by the name of Hugos; y^e one he slew, y^e other he put to flight, and subdued y^e Island.

But the Welchmen presented him with many gifts, and so he bad them farewell, and returned unto Man. Unto Murchard, King of Ireland, he sent his shoes, and comfanded him to carry them on his shoulders thro' the midst of his house on Christmas day, y^t he might thereby understand y^t he was subject unto King Magnus, which the Irish men, as soon as they heard of it, took grievously, and disdained exceeding much; but the king, following a wiser course—"I had rather not only carry his shoes but also eat 'em than King Magnus shou'd destroy one province in Ireland." He fulfill'd his comfandment and honourably treated his messengers. Many presents also he sent over by them unto King Magnus, and entered into league with him. These messengers being returned unto their Lord related unto him many things touch-

¹ The Scottish historians say y^t Donald, y^e 7th King of Scots, gave Orkney and y^e Western Isles to Magnus king of Norway, to assist him to usurp y^e Crown of Scotland.

ing the situation of Ireland, the pleasantness thereof, and abundance of corn, and wholesomeness of the air. When King Magnus heard of this straitways he thought of nothing else but conquering Ireland, and bring it wholly under his dominion, he commanded his men therefore to repair a navy of ships, and himself in person setting forwards with 16 ships, desirous to make a view of the country. As he unwarily departed aside from his shipping, was suddenly encompassed about with the Irish, and so lost his life, together with all these in a manner with him, and he was buried hard by St. Patrick's church in Down. He reigned 16 years. After whose death the princes of the Islands sent for Olive, the son of Godred, surnamed Crovan, who liv'd in the court of Henry, King of England, son of King W^m.

Anno 1102.¹ Olive, the son of Godred Crovan aforesaid, began his reign, and reigned 40 years ; a peaceable prince, having all the kings of Ireland and Scotland to be his confederates. He took to wife Africa, the daughter of Fergus of Galloway, of whom he begat Godred ; by his concubines he had Reginald, Lagman, and Harrold, besides many daughters, whereof one was married to Sumerled, prince of Herengaidel, who was the cause of the ruin of the whole kings of the Islands. Of her he begat 4 sons—Dulgal, Regnald, Engus, and Olive.

Anno 1133. There happened so great an eclipse of the sun upon y^e 4th of y^e nones of August y^t the day was turned into night.

Anno 1134. Olive gave unto Ivon, abbot of Furness, a plot of his land in Man to build an abby in a place called Russin, and both enriched with revenues and endowed with priviledges y^e estate of the church in y^e Islands.

Anno 1142. Godred, Olive's son, sailed over to the king

¹ Rather an. 1114, for Magnus conquered y^e Island an. 1098, and reigned 16 years.

of Norway, whose name was Hinge, and did his homage unto him, and stayed there, being honourably entertained of him. The same year 3 sonns of Harrold, Olive's brother (who had been brought up in Dublin), raising a great number of men together, and all those who were fled from the king, came to Man, demanding of the same king to have the one moiety of the whole kingdom of the Islands to be given unto them; but the king, when he heard their demands, being willing to pacify them, answered y^t he wou'd take council of the matter. Now, when they had appointed the time and place where the council shou'd be held, in the mean while those most lewd and wicked villains complotted among themselves the king's death. At y^e day appointed both parties met at y^e haven which is called Ramsey, and sat in order by rowes, the king with his council on the one side, and they, together with their company, on the other side, and Reynald (who was to dispatch him) was in the midst between, and stood talking apart with one of the peers of the land; but when the king had called him, and was come unto him, he turned towards y^e king as tho' he wou'd salute him, and therewith lifting up a glittering ax a great height, at one blow cut off y^e king's head; and forthwith, as soon as they had committed such a bloody murther, they divided the land among themselves, and after some few days, having gathered a navy together, sailed over to Galloway, desirous to bring it also under their subjection; but those of Galloway, sticking close and round together, gave a fair onset and joined battle with them. They, by and by, turning their backs, fled in great disorder to Man. As for all the Galloway men therein, some of them they slew, and others they expelled.

Anno 1143. Godred, Olive's son, returning out of Norway, was created king of Man, and, to avenge his father's death, he caused 2 of Harrold's sons to have their eyes pulled out, and slew y^e 3d.

Anno 1144. Godred began his reign, and reigned 30 years. In the 3d year of his reign the people of Dublin sent for him and created him king of Dublin, against whom Murcard, king of Ireland, raised war, and encamped himself before the city, which is called Coridiles, sent his half-brother by the mother side, Osibely, with 300 men of arms, to Dublin, who was by Godred and the Dublinians slain, and all y^e rest put to flight. These exploits achieved Godred returned to Man and began to use tyranny, and turned noblemen out of their inheritances, whereof one was called Thorfin, Otter's son, mightier than the rest, came to Somerled, and made Dulgal, Somerled's son, king of the Islands, subduing many Islands unto him. When Godred had intelligence of those things by one Paul, he prepared a navy, and set forward to meet with Somerled, who was coming with a fleet of 80 sail; and in an. 1156 there was a battle fought at sea on the 12th day, at night, and after many a man slain on both sides, the next day after they grew to a pacification, and divided among themselves the kingdom of the Islands, and so it became 2 several kingdoms from y^t very day unto this present time, and this was the cause of y^e overthrows of y^e kingdoms of the Isles since y^e time y^t Somerled's son seiz'd upon it.

Anno 1158. Somerled came to Man with a fleet of 53 sail, put Godred to flight, and wasted the Island. Godred then crossed to Norway to seek for aid against Somerled.

Anno 1164. Somerled gathered together a fleet of 160 ships, and arriv'd at Rhinfrin, coveting to subdue all Scotland; but, by the just judgment of God he was vanquished by a few, together wth his son, and an infinite number of people there slain. The same year there was a battle fought at Ramsey, between Reynold, brother of Godred, and y^e people of Man, and by y^e deceitful practice of a certain earl those of Man were put to flight.

Then Reynold began to reign, and on y^e 4th day after

came Godred upon him out of Norway with a great multitude of men armed, and took his brother Reynold, whom he bereaved both of his eyes and of his genital members. The same years died Malcolm, king of Scotland, and his brother W^m. succeeded him in the kingdom.

Anno 1166. Two comets or blazing stars appeared before sun rising in the month of August, the one in the south the other in the north.

Anno 1171. Richard, Earle of Pembroke, sailed over into Ireland and subdued Dublin, with a great part of Ireland.

Anno 1176. John Cursey conquered Ulster ; and Vivian, legate of the Apostolick Sea, came into Man, and caused King Godred to be lawfully espoused unto his wife Phingola, daughter of MacLollen, son to Marcatas, king of Ireland ; to wit, the mother of Olave, then 3 years of age. Sylvan the abbot married 'em, unto whom, the very same day, Godred gave a piece of ground at Miriscoe,¹ where he built a monastery ; but at length the land was, together with the monks, granted to the Abby of Russin. Reynold, son to Eacmarcat, one of royal blood, coming into Man with a great band of men, in the king's absence, at y^e first conflict put to flight certain warders y^t kept the shore, and killed about 30 men ; afterwards y^e Manksmen, gathering their forces together, the same day slew him and almost all his company.

Anno 1183. O'Faggot was sheriff of Man.

Anno 1185. There happened an eclipse of the sun on St. Philip and Jacob's day.

Anno 1187. On the 4th of the ides of No^{vr}. died Godred, king of the Islands, and the next su^mer was his body translated to the Isles of Hy. He left behind him 3 sons, Reynold, Olive, and Ivar. In his lifetime he ordained his son Olive to be his heir, because he only was born in lawful wedlock ; but the people of Man, seeing y^t Olive was now scarce 10 years

¹ Monasticon Anglicanum, p. 711.

old, sent for Reynold out of the Isles, and set him up for their king.

Anno 1188. Reynold, Godred's son, began to reign over the Islands, and Murcard, a man of great power thro'out all y^e kingdoms of the Isles, was slain.

Anno 1192. A battle was fought between Reynold and Engus (y^e son of Soðerled); but Engus won the victory. The same year y^e abbey of Russin was translated to Douglas, but after 4 years the monks returned to Russin.

Anno 1203. Micael, bishop of the Isles, died at Fountains, after whom succeeded Nicholas.

Anno 1204. Hugh Lacey came with an army into Ulster, and gave John Cursy a battle, took him prisoner, and conquered Ulster. Afterwards he set John at liberty, who came to King Reynold, and he honourably entertain'd him because he was his brother-in-law. For John Cursy had taken to wife Africa, Godred's daughter, who founded the abby of St. Mary de Ingo Domini, and was there buried.

Anno 1205. John Cursy, and Reynold, king of the Isles, having entered into Ulster with 100 ships in y^e haven which is called Strangford, slackly besieged the fortress of Roth; but Walter Lacey coming upon them with an army, put 'em to flight. After this Cursy never recovered his land.

Anno 1210. Engus, Somerled's son, was, with 3 of his sons, slain. John, King of England, at the same time, brought a navy of 500 sail to Ireland, and subdued it; who, sending a certain Earl Fulke into Man, in a fortnight and a day whole, and in a manner, wasted it, and taking hostages returned into their country. King Reynold and his nobles were not in Man.

Anno 1217. Nicholas, bishop of the Islands, died, and was buried in Ulster, within the house of Benchor, after whom succeeded Reynold.

Here, saith Cambden, I think good to write somewhat again

of Olive and Reynold's brethren :—Reynold gave unto his brother Olive the isle called Lodhus, which is said to be larger than the rest of the Islands, but slenderly inhabited, because it stands much upon mountains, is stony besides, and almost all unfit for tillage. Y^e inhabitants thereof live for the most part by hunting and fishing. Olive therefore went to possess himself of this island, and dwelt in it, leading a poor life ; and when he saw it wou'd not suffice to maintain himself and his army, he came boldly to his brother Reynold, who then made his abode in the Islands, and spake unto him in this manner :—" Brother," saith he, " my Sovereign Lord the King. Thou knowest y^t the kingdom of y^e Islands belonged to me by inheritance, but sinc the Lord hath elected thee to sway the sceptor thereof, I envy thee not nor take it grievously y^t thou art exalted to the royal dignity. Now thus much I heartily beseech thee y^t thou wouldst provide me some portion of land wherein I may live honestly according to my estate, for the island Lodhus, which thou gavest me, is not sufficient to sustain me." His brother, after he had given him the hearing, said he wou'd take council upon the point ; and the morrow after Olive was sent for, and came in place to consult of matters. Reynold commandeth y^t he should be apprehended and brought unto W^m. king of Scotland, y^t with him he might be kept in prison, and Olive lay prisoner in irons and chains almost 7 years. In the 7th year died W^m. king of Scotland, after whom succeeded his son Alexander. Now, before his death, he gave coñmand y^t all y^e prisoners shou'd be set free. Olive, therefore, being enlarged and at liberty, came to Man, and soon after, accompanied with no small train of noblemen, he went unto St. James. And after he was thus returned Reynold, his brother, caused him to marry a noble man's daughter of Kintire, even his own wife's, whose sister named Lavour, and gave him Lodhus to enjoy. Some few days after Reynold, bishop of the Islands, having

call'd a Synod, canonically divorced Olive, the son of Godred, and Laven his wife, as being the cousin-german of his former wife. Arter this Olive wedded Christina, daugh^r of Fercar, earl of Ross. For this cause Reynold's wife, queen of the Islands, was wroth, and directed her letters in the name of Reynold the king, into the Isle Sky, unto Godred her son, y^t he shou'd kill Olive. As Godred was devising means to work this feat, and entering into Lodhus, Olive fled in a little cockboat unto his father-in-law, the earl of Ross afores^d; then Godred wasted and spoiled Lodhus. At the same time Pol, the son of Booke, sherif of Sky, a man of great authority in all the Islands, because he wou'd not give his consent unto Godred, fled, and together with Olive, they came both in one ship to Sky. At length, having sent forth their spies and discoverers, they, hearing y^t Godred lay in a certain island called St. Colm's Isle, having very few men with him, misdoubting nothing; gathering therefore about them all their friends and acquaintance, with such volunteers as were ready to join them at midnight, with 5 ships, which they drew from the next sea-shore distant from the island afores^d. about 2 furlongs, they beset the isle round about. Godred then, and they y^t were with him, rising by the dawning of the day, and seeing themselves environed on every side with enemies, were astonished; but, putting themselves in warlike arms, assayed right manfully to make resistance, but all in vain, for about 9 o'clock y^t day Olive, and Pol y^e afores^d sheriff, set foot in the island with their whole army, and having slain all those they found without the enclosure of y^e church, they took Godred, put out his eyes, and gelded him. Howbeit Olive did not give his consent to this deed, neither wou'd he withstand it, for Booke's son, the sheriff afores^d; for this was done in the year 1223.

The su^mer next following, Olive, after he had taken hostages of all the l^{ds}. and potentates of the Isles, came with

a fleet of 32 sail towards Man, and arriv'd at Rognalswath ; and at this very time Reynold and Olive divided the kingdoms of the Islands betwixt themselves, and Man was given to Reynold, besides his own portion, together with the title of king. Olive the 2d time having furnished himself with victuals from the people of Man, return'd with his company to his portion of y^e Islands. The year following Reynold, taking with him Allan, lord of Galloway, went, with his soldiers of Man, to the island parts, y^t he might displace his brother Olive of land w^{ch} he had given unto him, and bring it under his own dominion ; but because the Manksmen were not willing to fight against Olive and y^e Islanders, for y^e love they had to them, Reynold, and Allan lord of Galloway, returned home without atchieving their purpose. After a little while, under a pretence of going to the court of his sovereign lord the king of England, took up of the people of Man an 100 marks, but went instead to the court of the lord of Galloway. At the same time he affianced his daughter unto the son of Allan in marriage, which the Manksmen hearing, took such a snuff and indignation thereat y^t they sent for Olive and made him their king.

Anno 1226. Olive recovered his inheritance, to wit, y^e kingdom of Man and of the Islands, which his brother Reynold had governed 38 years, and reigned quietly 2 years.

Anno 1228. Olive, accompanied with all the nobles of Man, and a band of the strongest men of y^e country, sailed over into y^e Islands. A little after Allan, lord of Galloway, and Tho^s, earl of Athol, and King Reynold, came unto Man with a puissant army. All the south of Man they wasted, spoiled the churches, and slew all y^e men they cou'd lay hold of, so as the south part of Man was laid in a manner desolate. After this returned Allan into his own country with his army, and left his bayliffs in Man to gather up for him the tributes of the country ; but King Olive came upon them unawares,

put 'em to flight, and recovered his own kingdom. Then the people of Man, which before time had been dispersed every-way, began to gather themselves together, and to dwell with confidence and security. In the same year came King Reynold out of Galloway unexpected, at y^e dead time of the night, in winter, with 5 ships, and burnt all the shipping of his brother Olive, and of the lords of Man, at St. Patrick's Island; and, suing to his brother for peace, stayed 4 days at the haven of Rognalswath. In the mean time he won, and drew unto him all the islanders of the south part of Man, who swore they wou'd venture their lives in his quarrel until he were invested in one half of his kingdom. On the contrary part, Olive had the northern men of the Isle on his side, and, upon the 14th day of February, at a place called Tengvalla, there was a battle fought between the 2 brethren, wherein Olive had the victory, and King Reynold was killed without his brother's knowledge; and certain rovers came to the south part of Man and wasted it. The monks of Russin translated the body of Reynold unto the Abby of St. Mary de Fourness, and there entered it in a place which himself had chosen for that purpose. After this went Olive to the king of Norway; but before y^t he was come thither Hacco, king of Norway, ordained a certain nobleman named Husbax, the son of Owmand, to be king of the Sodo-rean Islands, and called his name Hacco. Now the same Hacco, together with Olive and Godred, Reynold's son, and many Norwegians, came unto the island, and at the winning of a fort of an island called Both,¹ Hacco chanced to be smotten with a stone, whereof he died, and lieth buried in Iona.

Anno 1230. Olive came with Godred Don and the Norwegians unto Man, and they divided the kingdom amongst themselves. Olive held Man, and Godred, being gone into the Islands, was slain in the Isle Lodhus;² so obtained Olive the kingdom of the Isles.

¹ Others Beith.

² Lewis.

Anno 1237. On y^e 12th calends of June died Olive, the son of Godred, king of Man, in St. Patrick's Island, and was buried in the abby of Russin. He reigned 11 years too by his bro^r, and 9 after his death. Harrold his son succeeded him, being 14 years of age, and reigned 12 years. In the first year of his reign he made a journey into the Islands, and appointed Loglen his cousin custos of Man. In the autumn following Harrold sent 3 sons of Nel, viz. Duffgald, Thorquil, Mormore, and his friend Joseph, to Man, for to consult about affairs. On the 25th day, therefore, they meet together at Tingul, and by occasion of a certain envious quarrel y^t arose between the sons of Nell and Loglen there was a sore fight on both sides, wherein were slain Duffgald, Mormore, and the aforesaid Joseph. In the spring following King Harrold came to the Isle of Man, and Loglen, as he fled towards Wales, perished by shipwrack, with Godred, Olive's son, his foster-child and pupil, with 40 others.

Anno 1238. Gospatrick,¹ and Gillescrist, y^e sons of Mac-Kerthac, came from the king of Norway into Man, and took tributes to y^e king's behalf of Norway, because he refused to come to the king of Norway's court.

Anno 1241. Gospatrick died and was buried in the abby of Russin.

An. 1239. Harrold went unto the king of Norway, who, after 2 years, confirmed unto him, his heirs and successors, under his seal, all the islands which his predecessors had possessed.

Anno 1242. Harrold returned unto Man out of Norway, and being by the inhabitants honourably received, had peace with the king of England and Scotland. Harrold, like as his father before him, was dubbed knight² by the king of England, and after he had been rewarded with many gifts, returned

¹ Who by force kept Harrold of Man, and took tribute, etc.

² Math. Paris saith he was knighted by King Henry y^e 3d, anno 1246.

home. The same year he was sent for by the king of Norway, and married his daughter; and in the year 1249, as he returned homewards with his wife, and Lawrence, bishop elect of Man, and many other noblemen and gentlemen, he was drowned in a tempest at sea near unto the coast of Radland.

Anno 1249. Reynold, the son of Olive, and brother to Harrold, began his reign the day before the nones of May, and on the 30th day thereof was slain by one Ivar, a knight, and his company, in a meadow near unto the Holy Trinity Church, on the south side, and was buried in the church of St. Mary of Russin. At that time Alexander, king of Scots, rigged and brought together many shippes, meaning to subdue the Island, and in the isle Kerwaray he died of an aguey. Harrold, the son of Godred Don, usurped the name of king in the islands. All the nobles of Harrold, King Olive's son, he banish'd, and placed in their stead all the princes and peers y^t were fled from the same.

Anno 1250. Harrold, the son of Godred Don, being by missives sent for, went unto the king of Norway, who kept him in prison because he had unjustly intruded himself into the kingdom.

The same year there arriv'd at Rogalswath, Magnus the son of Olive, and John the son of Dungald, who named himself king; but the people of Man, taking it to the heart y^t Magnus was not nominated, wou'd not suffer them to land. Many of them therefore were cast away, and perished by shipwrack.

Anno 1252. Magnus, the son of Olive, came to Man, and was made king the next year. He went to the king of Norway, and stayed there a year.

Anno 1254. Hacco, king of Norway, ordained Magnus, Olive's son, king of the Isles, and confirmed the same unto him and his heirs, and by name unto his brother Harrold.

Anno 1256. Magnus, king of Man, went into England, and was knighted by the king of England.

Anno 1257. The church of St. Mary, in Russin, was dedicated by Richard of Sodor.

Anno 1260. Hacco, king of Norway, came unto the parts of Scotland, and, without any exploit done, turned to the Orkneys, where, at Kyrkewal, he ended his days, and lieth interr'd at Berghen.

Anno 1265. Magnus, Olive's son, king of Man and of the Islands, departed this life at the castle of Russin, and was buried in the church of St. Mary of Russin.

Anno 1266. The kingdom of the Islands was translated by reason of Alexander, king of the Scots.

That which followeth was written in another hand, and in a later character.

Anno 1270. Y^e 7th of October Albany, set out by Alexander, king of y^e Scots, arrived at Rognalswath, and the next morrow, before sunrising, a battle was fought between the people of Man and the Scots, in which were slain of the Manksmen 537, whereupon a certain poet played thus upon the number :—

L decies X ter & penta duo cecidere
Manica Gens de te damnas futura cave.

L 10 times told, x thrice, with five besides and twain,
Ware future harms, I read of thy folk, Man, were slain.

Anno 1313. Robert, king of Scots, besieged the castle of Russin, which Dingany Dowill held against him ; but, in the end, the king won the castle.

Anno 1316. On the Ascension-day Richard Mandevile and his brethren, with other potentates of Ireland, arriv'd at Rognalswath, requesting them to be furnished with victuals and silver, for that they had been robbed by the enemies warring upon them continually. Now, when the commonalty of the country had made answer y^t they wou'd not give them any, they advanced forward against those of Man with 2

troops or squadrons, until they were come as far as to the side of Wardfell Hill,¹ in a field wherein John Mandevile remained, and there, in a fought battle, the Irish vanquished the Manksmen, spoiled the Island, and rifled the abby of Russin, and, after they had continued in the Island the whole month, they returned home with their ships fraught with pillage.

Thus endeth the Cronocle of the Kingdom of Man.

¹ Barrule.

END OF VOL. I.

THE MANX SOCIETY
FOR THE
PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL DOCUMENTS.

RULES.

1. That the affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Council, to meet on the first Tuesday in every month, and to consist of not more than twenty-four Members, of whom three shall form a quorum ; and that the President, Vice-Presidents, the Hon. Secretary, and Treasurer shall be considered *ex officio* Members. The Council may appoint two acting Committees, one for Finance and the other for Publication.

2. That a Subscription of One Pound annually, paid in advance, on or before the day of Annual Meeting, shall constitute Membership ; and that every Member not in arrear of his Annual Subscription be entitled to a copy of every publication issued by the Society. That no Member incur any pecuniary liability beyond his Annual Subscription.

3. That the Accounts of Receipts and Expenditure be examined annually by two Auditors appointed at the Annual Meeting on the 1st of May in each year.

4. That Six Copies of his Work be allowed to the Editor of the same, in addition to the one he is entitled to as a Member.

5. That no Rule shall be made or altered except at a General Meeting, after due notice of the proposed alteration has been given as the Council shall direct. The Council shall have the power of calling Extraordinary Meetings.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

- ADAMSON, Lawrence, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
 Allen, A. S., Colonel, Richmond, Surrey.
 Anderson, Wm. J., Major 32d Regiment.
 Archer, Robert, Douglas.
- BARNWELL, Rev. E. L., M.A., Melksham House, Wilts.
 Bishop, Major, The Turrets, Colchester.
 Booth, William, Holly Bank, Manchester.
 Bridson, Henry, F.R.S.A., Dartmoor.
 Bridson, John, Liverpool.
 Bridson, Joseph R., Bridge House, Bolton-le-Moors.
 Bridson, Thos. Ridgway, Torquay.
 British Museum, London.
 Brown, John A., Douglas.
- CADMAN, Charles Wm., Everton, Liverpool.
 Cadman, Henry, Howstrake, Conchan.
 Caine, Capt. Chas., Aigburth, Liverpool.
 Caine, Rev. William, M.A., Manchester.
 Callow, Thomas C., Douglas.
 Carr, Rev. James, Formby, near Liverpool.
 Chetham Library, Manchester.
 Christian, Rev. W. Bell, B.A., H.K., Milntown.
 Christian, W. Watson, Ramsey.
 Clucas, John Thomas, Sunnyside, Douglas.
 Corrin, Tom, Castletown.
 Cowle, James, Douglas.
 Coxe, Rev. H. O., M.A., Oxford.
 Crellin, John F., Orrysdale, Michael.
 Curphey, Mrs. H., Douglas.
 Curphey, Rev. W. T., Bridport, Dorset.
- DALEYMPLE, William, H.K., Burnside, Braddan.
 Derby, Rt. Hon. the Earl of, Knowsley.
 Dixon, James, Ormskirk.
 Drinkwater, Deemster, Kirby.
 Drinkwater, P. B., Torquay.
 Dumbell, Geo. William, H.K., Balmont, Douglas.
- ERRINGTON, Rt. Rev. Dr., Bath.
- FARGHEE, John C., Douglas.
 Farrant, Edward Curphey, H.K., Ballakillingham, Lezayre.
 Forbes, David, F.R.S., London.
- GARRET, P. L., Douglas—*Treasurer*.
 Gell, James, Attorney-General, Castletown.
 Gell, William, Douglas.
 Gelling, Frederick L., Castletown.
 Gelling, Richard, Windsor Terrace, Douglas.
 Goldsmith, Henry, Ramsey.
 Goldsmith, John, Douglas—*Hon. Sec.*
- HARDY, William, Keeper of the Records of the Duchy of Lancaster, London.
 Harris, Samuel, High Bailiff of Douglas.
 Harrison, Ridgway, Receiver General, etc., Woodside House.
 Harrison, Rev. Stephen, Dhoon.
 Harrison, William, Rock Mount, St. John's.
 Hope, Hon. Charles, late Lieut.-Governor of the Isle of Man.

- Howard, Rev. W. W., M.A., Inspector of Schools, Exeter.
Hutton, Rev. W. M., Vicar of Lezayre.
- IMPERIAL Library, Strasburg.
- JACKSON, William, St. Bees.
Jeffcott, J. M., H.K., High Bailiff of Castletown.
Jefferson, Joseph, India.
Jenkinson, H. J., Keswick.
Jewitt, Llewellyn, F.S.A., Matlock—*Hon. Member.*
Jones, Rev. Joshua J., D.C.L., King William's College.
- KELLY, Robert James, Ramsey.
Kelly, Mrs. Gordon W., Oxney House, Chelmsford.
Kermode, Rev. William, Vicar of Maughold.
Kewley, James, Rolls Office, Castletown.
Keys, House of, Isle of Man.
Kinley, Philip, Douglas.
Kyrke, R. V., Stainsby Hall, Wrexham.
- LACE, Francis J., Stonne Gappe, Yorkshire.
Laughton, Alfred N., Douglas.
Law Library, Douglas.
Liverpool Free Public Library.
Lloyd, Robert, Oakwood, Kent.
Loch, Henry B., C.B., Lieut.-Governor of the Isle of Man—*President.*
Lumsden, William, Glenaspet, Patrick.
- MACKENZIE, John W., F.S.A., Edinburgh.
Maxwell, Sir W. S., Bart., Keir, N.B.
Moor, Rev. John Frewen, M.A., Bath.
Moore, Rev. John Stevenson, Swansea.
Moore, Joseph C., the Ven. Archdeacon.
Moore, Robert J., H.K., High Bailiff of Peel.
- Moore, William F., Cronkbourne, Braddan.
- NOBLE, Henry B., Villa Marina, Douglas.
- OWEN's College, Manchester.
- POLE, C. Chandos, Falkner St., Liverpool.
- QUARITCH, Bernard, Piccadilly, London.
- READY, Lieutenant-Colonel, Canada.
Robinson, William, Bolton-le-Moors.
Rogers, Alfred S., Manchester.
Rowe, Richard, H.K., Min-y-don, Douglas.
- SHERWOOD, Richard, H.K., Derby Square, Douglas.
Simpson, Rev. Samuel, M.A., Clifton, Bristol.
Smith, Henry, Egremont, Cheshire.
Society, Anthropological, London—*Hon. Members.*
Society of Antiquaries, Royal, London—*Hon. Members.*
Society of Antiquaries, Royal, Scotland—*Hon. Members.*
Society of Antiquaries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—*Hon. Members.*
Sodor and Man, the Lord Bishop of.
Steele, Alexander, Ph.D., Douglas.
Stewart, Mrs. Hugh Dunn, Whithorn.
Sutherland, His Grace the Duke of.
Swinerton, Charles, Douglas.
Swinerton, Robert, Douglas.
- TALBOT, Rev. Theophilus, Douglas.
Taubman, J. S. Goldie, H.K., The Nunnery, Douglas.
Trinity College, Dublin.
- WATTS, Edwin L., Douglas.
Wright, George, Oxford Road, Manchester.

The Hon. Secretary requests that any change of address or irregularity in the delivery of the books may be communicated to him. Members at a distance are requested to acknowledge the receipt of their copies to Mr. John Goldsmith, Hon. Secretary, 7 Peel Road, Douglas, to whom also their Subscriptions may be remitted.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE MANX SOCIETY.

FOR THE FIRST YEAR—1858-59.

VOL. I.—An Account of the Isle of Man, with a Voyage to I-Columb-kill. By William Sacheverell, Esq., late Governor of Man. 1703. With a dissertation about the Mona of Cæsar and Tacitus, and an Account of the Ancient Druids, by Mr. Thomas Brown. Edited, with introductory notice and copious notes, by the Rev. J. G. Cumming, M.A., F.G.S. 300 copies printed. Pp. xvi. 204. A Pedigree.

VOL. II.—A Practical Grammar of the Antient Gaelic or Language of the Isle of Man, usually called Manx. By the Rev. John Kelly, LL.D. Edited, with an Introduction, Life of Dr. Kelly, and Notes, by the Rev. William Gill, Vicar of Malew. 322 copies printed. Pp. xlviii. 92.

FOR THE SECOND YEAR—1859-60.

VOL. III.—Legislation by Three of the Thirteen Stanleys, Kings of Man, including the letter of the Seventh Earl of Derby, as published in Peck's "*Desiderata Curiosa*," Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by the Rev. William Mackenzie. 402 copies printed. Pp. xix. 224. Plate.

VOL. IV.—*Monumenta de Insula Manniæ*, or a Collection of National Documents relating to the Isle of Man. Translated and edited, with Appendix, by J. R. Oliver, Esq., M.D. Vol. i. 315 copies printed. Pp. xv. 244. Plate.

VOL. V.—*Vestigia Insulæ Manniæ Antiquiora*; or a Dissertation on the Armorial Bearings of the Isle of Man, the Regalities and Prerogatives of its Ancient Kings, and the Original Usages, Customs, Privileges, Laws, and Constitutional Government of the Manx People. By H. R. Oswald, Esq., F.A.S., L.R.C.S.E. 310 copies printed. Pp. ix. 218. Ten plates.

FOR THE THIRD YEAR—1860-61.

VOL. VI.—A Tour through the Island of Mann in 1797 and 1798 ; comprising sketches of its ancient and modern History, Constitution, Laws, Commerce, Agriculture, Fishery, etc. By John Feltham. Edited, with Notes, by the Rev. Robert Airey. 305 copies printed. Pp. xvi. 272. Map. Four plates. Three Woodcuts.

VOL. VII.—*Monumenta de Insula Manniæ* ; or a Collection of National Documents relating to the Isle of Man. Translated and Edited by J. R. Oliver, Esq., M.D. Vol. ii. 311 copies printed. Pp. xxi. 250. Map.

VOL. VIII.—*Bibliotheca Monensis* : a Bibliographical Account of Works relating to the Isle of Man. By William Harrison, Esq., M.H.K. 308 copies printed. Pp. viii. 208.

FOR THE FOURTH YEAR—1861-62.

VOL. IX.—*Monumenta de Insula Manniæ* ; or a Collection of National Documents relating to the Isle of Man. Translated and Edited, with Appendix and Indices, by J. R. Oliver, Esq., M.D. Vol. iii. 300 copies printed. Pp. 272.

VOL. X.—A Short Treatise of the Isle of Man. By James Chaloner, Governor of the Island from 1658 to 1660. Published originally in 1656 in King's "Vale Royal of England, or the County Palatine of Chester." Edited, with an Introductory Notice and copious Notes, by the Rev. J. G. Cumming, M.A., F.G.S. 300 copies printed. Pp. vii. 138. Map. Four plates. Five pedigrees.

FOR THE FIFTH YEAR—1862-63.

VOL. XI.—A Description of the Isle of Man : with some useful and entertaining reflections on the Laws, Customs, and Manners of the Inhabitants. By George Waldron, Gent., late of Queen's College, Oxon. 1731. Edited, with an Introductory Notice and Notes, by William Harrison, Esq., M.H.K. 300 copies printed. Pp. xxv. 155. Plate.

VOL. XII.—An Abstract of the Laws, Customs, and Ordinances of the Isle of Man : compiled by John Parr, Esq., formerly one of the Deemsters of the Island. Edited, with Notes, by James Gell, Esq., Attorney-General of the Isle of Man. Vol. i. 310 copies printed. Pp. xvi. 241.

FOR THE SIXTH YEAR—1863-64.

VOL. XIII.—Fockleyr Manninagh as Baarlagh, Liorish Juan y Kelly. Edited by the Rev. William Gill, Vicar of Malew. Part i.

An English and Manx Dictionary, prepared from Dr. Kelly's Triglot Dictionary, with alterations and additions from the Dictionaries of Archibald Cregeen and John Ivon Mosley. By the Rev. William Gill and the Rev. J. T. Clarke. Part ii. 500 copies printed. Pp. 432.

FOR THE SEVENTH YEAR—1864-65.

VOL. XIV.—Memorials of "God's Acre," being Monumental Inscriptions in the Isle of Man, taken in the Summer of 1797. By John Feltham and Edward Wright. Edited, with an Introductory Notice, by William Harrison, Esq. 300 copies printed. Pp. xv. 132. Six Plates.

VOL. XV.—Antiquitates Manniæ; or a Collection of Memoirs on the Antiquities of the Isle of Man. Edited by the Rev. J. G. Cumming, M.A., F.G.S. 300 copies printed. Pp. viii. 140. Twenty-four plates. Eleven woodcuts.

FOR THE EIGHTH YEAR—1865-66.

VOL. XVI.—Mona Miscellany. A Selection of Proverbs and Sayings, Ballads, Customs, Superstitions, and Legends, peculiar to the Isle of Man. Collected and Edited by William Harrison. 261 copies printed. Pp. xv. 241. Music to three Songs.

VOL. XVII.—Currency of the Isle of Man, from its earliest appearance to its assimilation with the British Coinage in 1840; with the Laws and other circumstances connected with its History. Edited by Charles Clay, M.D., Manchester. With articles on Paper Currency, Treasure Trove, etc., by J. Frissell Crellin, Esq., M.H.K. 250 copies printed. Pp. xi. 215. Illustrated extensively with Photographs, Lithographs, and Woodcuts.

FOR THE NINTH YEAR—1866-67.

VOL. XVIII.—The Old Historians of the Isle of Man—Camden, Speed, Dugdale, Cox, Wilson, Willis, and Grose. Edited by William Harrison. 209 copies printed. Pp. xiv. 199. Three Maps and thirteen Plates.

FOR THE TENTH YEAR—1867-68.

VOL. XIX.—Records of the Tynwald and St. John's Chapels in the Isle of Man. By William Harrison. With an Appendix, containing an Account of the Duke of Atholl taking possession of the Isle of Man in 1736. Also, A Lay of Ancient Mona. 263 copies printed. Pp xiv. 148. Fourteen Plates.

FOR THE ELEVENTH AND TWELFTH YEARS—1868-69-70.

(No Works issued for these Years or Subscriptions collected.)

FOR THE THIRTEENTH YEAR—1870-71.

VOL. XX.—Manx Miscellanies. Vol. i. Containing—1. Selections from "Paradise Lost," a Poem, by John Milton, translated into the Manx Language by the Rev. Thomas Christian, Vicar of Marown, in 1796. 2. The Emerald Vernicle of the Vatican. By C. W. King, M.A., with Notes by "Aspen." With a Portrait of Our Saviour. 3. Ancient Portraits of Our Lord. After the type of the Emerald Vernicle given by Bajazet II. to Pope Innocent VIII. By Albert Way. 4. The Seal of Thomas, Bishop of the Isle of Man. By E. L. Barnwell, M.A. With an Engraving of the Seal. 5. Poetical Description of the Isle of Man in Manx. By Joseph Bridson, 1760. Rendered into English by Mr. John Quirk of Carn-ny-Greie, Patrick. 6. Diary of James, VIIth Earl of Derby, who was beheaded at Bolton-in-the-Moors, October 15th, 1651, aged 45 years. With Notes by Mr. Paul Bridson, Hon. Sec. 250 copies printed.

VOL. XXI. Mona Miscellany. A Selection of Proverbs, Sayings, Ballads, Customs, Superstitions, and Legends, peculiar to the Isle of Man. Second Series. Collected and Edited by William Harrison, Esq., Author of "Bibliotheca Monensis." Pp. xvi. 285. Two Plates. With Music to one Song. 208 copies printed.

FOR THE FOURTEENTH YEAR—1871-72.

VOL. XXII.—Chronica Regum Manniæ et Insularum. The Chronicle of Man and the Sudreys, from the Manuscript Codex in the British Museum, with Historical Notes. By P. A. Munch, Professor of History in the Royal University of Christiania, Hon. F.R.A.S.S. Revised, annotated, and furnished with additional Documents, and English

Translations of the Chronica and of the Latin Documents, by the Right Rev. Dr. Goss. Vol. i. Pp. xxviii. 264. Two Plates. 155 copies printed.

VOL. XXIII.—The Chronicle of Man and the Sudreys. Vol. ii. Containing Documents referred to. Pp. 265-436. 155 copies printed.

FOR THE FIFTEENTH YEAR—1872-73.

VOL. XXIV.—Bibliotheca Monensis : a Bibliographical Account of Works relating to the Isle of Man. New Edition. Revised, corrected, and enlarged. By William Harrison. 156 copies printed. Pp. xii. 312.

FOR THE SIXTEENTH YEAR—1873-74.

VOL. XXV.—A History of the Isle of Man, written by William Blundell, Esq., of Crosby, County Lancaster. 1648-1656. Printed from a Manuscript in the possession of the Manx Society. Edited by William Harrison. Vol. i. 150 copies printed. Pp. xxx. 154.

WORKS SUGGESTED FOR PUBLICATION.

1. Memoirs of Mark Hildesley, Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man. By the Rev. Wheedon Butler, 1790. With Selections from the Appendix, containing many interesting Letters to and from his Clergy, etc., together with additional Correspondence, not inserted therein, of a local character.

2. Tabular Statement of the Archdeacons, Rectors, Vicars, and Incumbents of the several Parishes and Districts of Man, with the dates of their Inductions ; in whose Presentation, whether in the gift of the Crown or Bishop ; and cause of Vacancy.

3. A Volume of Church Notes, including an Account of St. Matthew's Chapel, Douglas. Extracts from the various Parish Registers of Births, Marriages, Deaths, etc. Lord Derby's Letter to apply money to build the Chapel at Castletown.

4. Manx Miscellanies, viz.—

1. Biographical Notices of the Kings, Governors, Bishops, Deemsters, Keys, and other Officials, from the earliest times. Chronologically arranged.
2. Proceedings respecting Scrope, Earl of Wiltshire, 1399.
3. Proceedings respecting the Abbey of Rushen, 1541.
4. Grant of Abbey Lands, 1610.
5. Lord Manchester's Decree respecting Abbey Lands, 1632.
6. Appeal allowed from the Bishop to York, and proceedings thereon.
7. The Charge of the Revenue of the Isle of Man from the 5th October 1759 to 5th October 1760, including the Abbey Temporalities, Disbursements for Salaries, and Pensions to Officers, Soldiers, etc., for Rushen and Peel Garrisons, and Douglas, Ramsey, and Derby Forts, under the control of Daniel Mylrea, Receiver-General.
8. A List of the Inhabitants of Douglas, with their Names, Residence, etc., in 1730.
9. Memoirs of Thomas Bushell, the Recluse of the Calf.
10. Godred Crovan. A Poem by Chatterton.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE MANX SOCIETY, for the
Year ending 1st May 1875.

THE Council of the MANX SOCIETY have during the past year been enabled to place in the hands of Members the three volumes which have been alluded to in former Reports. The first publication being vol. i. of the "Manx Miscellanies." Vol. xx. of the series has, from a variety of causes, been hitherto delayed, contains documents highly interesting to the Manx scholar, to the contents of which the Council beg to call attention, particularly to the beauty of the seal of Thomas, Bishop of Man, engraved from an impression in wax taken from the original seal, the particulars of which have been given in the paper drawn up by the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, of Melksham. The other illustration in this volume—The Portraiture of our Lord—is taken from the ancient picture left by the Will of the Rev. Philip Moore, Rector of Bride, 1783, and for many years chaplain of St. Matthew's Chapel, Douglas, "to remain with the resident chaplain there." Other papers of an interesting character are in preparation to form a second volume of these Miscellanies. Vols. xxii. and xxiii. of this year's issue consist of vols. i. and ii. of *Chronica Regum Manniæ et Insularum*; the Chronicle of Man and the Sudreys, from the Manuscript Codex in the British Museum, with Historical Notes by P. A. Munch, Professor of History in the Royal University of Christiania, Hon. F.R.A.S.S., "revised, annotated, and furnished with additional documents and English translations of the Chronica, and of the Latin documents, by the Right Rev. Dr. Goss." On the death of Dr. Goss his papers were placed in the hands of Dr. Errington of Bath, who kindly undertook to pass them through the press, and to which he has appended many additional valuable notes, as also a preface to this edition; to

which is added for the first time a short memoir of Professor Munch, and a copy of his portrait.

The Manx Society have to acknowledge their thanks for permission to print Professor Munch's work in their series—this Chronicle forming, as it does, with the preface and the documents contained in the appendix, and the notes appended at foot, almost a mediæval history of Manx affairs, which the Council with every confidence place before the Members of the Manx Society; and to express their thanks for the unwearied exertions and perseverance on the part of the late Dr. Goss, which with him was a labour of love; as also to Dr. Errington for the able manner with which he has brought his late friend's work to a termination. The materials brought together in these volumes will be of incalculable benefit to the future historian of this Isle, and will, it is to be hoped, be the means of inducing others to search into the various records deposited in Scotland, Ireland, and other places, for the further elucidation of the early history of Man; so as, in the words of Dr. Errington—"It is surely not too much to expect that in a very few years more we shall be able to carry back a connected and fairly developed account of the affairs of the Island at least up to the time of its conversion to Christianity; and that, viewed from this point, the details of the prospect beyond may be gradually unfolded."

The Council feel called upon to report, with deep regret, the loss this Society has sustained by the recent death of another member of its society—Miss Wilks, of Douglas. This lady, from the commencement of the Society, has invariably evinced a warm interest in its proceedings and success, and has contributed by her pen to several articles connected therewith.

The Council would further observe—by death and removal this Society has lost during the past year eight Subscribers; whereas, on the other hand, it has gained seven new Members, including Trinity College, Dublin, and the Imperial Library at Strasburg.

The Publications contemplated, or in progress, are:—

1st. "The Poetical Works of the late John Stowell." Edited by the High-Bailiff of Peel.

2d. "Parr's Abstract," Part ii. By the Attorney-General of the

Isle of Man, which he hopes, with the assistance of his son, to complete this next year.

3d. "History of the Isle of Man in MS." written in or about 1648 ; the whole being now in the hands of a transcriber for the purpose of publication, and will no doubt form not only an interesting but an amusing account of the Island at that period.

4th. "The Manx Doomsday Book." Edited by Richard Sherwood, Esq., H.K., and Member of the Manx Bar.

These two last volumes will, it is hoped, form the volumes for this next year.

A Balance-sheet for the last year is appended, by which it will appear that there remains to the credit of this Society at the 1st instant the sum of £574 : 14 : 2.

Read and adopted at the Annual General Meeting, held in St. James' Hall, this 12th day of June 1875.

HENRY B. LOCH,
President.

DOUGLAS, 12th June 1875.

Dr. THE TREASURER OF THE MANX SOCIETY, IN ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH APRIL 1876. · Cr.

1875.		1876.		
April 30.	To Arrears of Subscriptions, 1870-71	£8 0 0	By Mr. A. Lewis, Photography for Vol. XX. .	£24 15 0
"	" Do. 1871-72	12 0 0	" Mrs. H. Curphey, Balance of Account for Vol. XX., and Advertising, etc.	15 5 6
"	" Do. 1872-73	18 0 0	" Messrs. R. and R. Clark, Edinburgh, for Printing Vols. XXII. and XXIII.	152 17 3
"	" Do. 1873-74	47 0 0	" Messrs. Westley and Co., Binding Vols. XX. to XXIII., carriage from Edinburgh to London, etc.	31 13 0
"	" Do. 1874-75	3 0 0	" Messrs. Waterston and Son, Photography for Vol. XXII.	6 15 0
"	" Ellis' Estate—less costs	1 0 0	" Messrs. Todhunter and Elliott, for Strong Box	2 3 6
"	" Difference between Pounds and Guineas received	0 1 0	" George A. Dean, on account for Lithography of Manorial Rolls	10 0 0
"	" 53 Books sold to Members	14 0 6	" Sundry incidental expenses, including Carriage and Postages, and delivery of Vols. XXII. and XXIII.	13 10 11
"	" 16 Vols. of XXII. and XXIII., at 21s.	16 16 0	May 1. " Balance in Bank	£554 5 10
"	" The late Miss Wilks towards Vol. XX.	3 0 0	" " Do. in Treasurer's hands	13 13 4
"	" Rev. J. K. Quirk's Estate	6 14 4		
"	" Balance from Mr. Quaritch	9 15 4		
"	" Interest allowed by Bankers to 31st December 1874	18 12 2		
"	" Balance in the Bank and Treasurer's hands on the 1st May 1874	649 0 0		567 19 2
				£804 19

PAUL BRIDSON,
Treasurer.

JAMES COWLE.
ROBERT ARCHER.

THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE MANX SOCIETY, for the Year ending 1st May 1876.

THE Council have to regret that owing to the continued indisposition of the late Honorary Secretary, Mr. Paul Bridson, during a great portion of the current year, they have been unable to issue to the Members the volume alluded to in their last year's Report. Considerable progress has, however, been made in the printing of several volumes, which may be confidently expected to be placed in the hands of the Members in a very short time, viz.—

1. "The Manx Domesday Book;" copies of the Manorial Rolls of the Isle of Man, edited by Richard Sherwood, Esq., H.K. The original Rolls have been photographed by the kind permission of Ridgway Harrison, Esq., Seneschal, and an English version by the learned editor, which, for the most part, is already printed. The Council have little doubt this volume will prove a valuable and interesting addition to their series.

2. "A History of the Isle of Man," written by William Blundell, Esq. of Crosby, county Lancaster, 1648, from a manuscript in the possession of the Manx Society, in two volumes, edited by William Harrison, Esq. This History is now printed for the first time, and the first volume is almost printed, and will be issued without delay; the second volume may be looked for in the course of the year.

3. "Bibliotheca Monensis." A Bibliographical Account of Works relating to the Isle of Man; a second and greatly enlarged Edition, by William Harrison, Esq. This edition contains upwards of three hundred additional articles, besides many additions to those previously noticed. This work is also nearly printed, and will be issued shortly.

The Publications contemplated, or in progress, are :—

1. "An Abstract of the Laws, Customs, and Ordinances of the Isle of Man," by Deemster Parr. Edited by James Gell, Esq., Her Majesty's Attorney-General for the Isle of Man. Part II.

2. "Journals of the House of Keys : Documents illustrating the History of the Isle of Man." Edited by J. M. Jeffcott, Esq., H.K., High-Bailiff of Castletown.

3. "The Poetical Works of the late John Stowell, with his Life, from a MS. by the Rev. Hugh Stowell, Rector of Ballaugh. Edited by R. J. Moore, Esq., H.K., High-Bailiff of Peel.

4. "A Volume of Church Notes, including an Account of St. Mark's Chapel, Malew, from the Rev. J. T. Clarke's Notes, Extracts from Parish Registers, etc." Edited by William Harrison, Esq., of Rock Mount.

5. "Manx Miscellanies." Volume II. Various Documents are in the hands of the Council ready to form a second series.

6. "Records, and other Documents relating to the Life and Times of William Christian, Receiver-General of the Isle of Man, commonly known as 'Illiam Dhône.' Copies of all the documents in the Public Record Office, London, as well as the depositions taken prior to his condemnation, have been now obtained, and will be for the first time printed, together with a Digest of the Transactions of that period of Manx History." Edited by William Harrison, Esq., of Rock Mount.

The Council recommend for the consideration of the Members the desirability of not calling in the Subscriptions for the current year, 1876-77, in consequence of no work having been issued during the last year, and considering the amount of the balance in the Treasurer's hands ; at the same time, they urgently call upon those Members who have not paid up the whole of their Subscriptions due, including the year 1875-76, to place the amount in the Treasurer's hands, to enable them to receive the volumes just about to be issued.

The publications and papers belonging to the Society having hitherto been in the custody of their late Honorary Secretary, Paul Bridson, Esq., the Council considered it advisable to obtain a room in which to deposit them, as also to hold their General Meetings in. They have accordingly rented a room at No. 20 Atholl Street, Douglas,

and furnished the same, which they trust will meet with the approval of the Members.

The Council cannot conclude their Report without expressing their regret at the loss the Society has sustained in the death of their late Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Paul Bridson. From the formation of the Society in 1858, until the time of his death in February last, he took a most lively interest in its welfare, and was ever ready to forward, by every means in his power, the objects of the Society, and by his gentle urbanity endeared himself to every one with whom he came in contact. His loss will be felt by all.

A Balance-sheet for the year is appended hereto, by which it will appear that there remains to the credit of the Society, on the 1st of May last, the sum of £566 : 6s.

Read and adopted at the Annual General Meeting, held at the Society's Room, 20 Atholl Street, Douglas, this 3d day of July 1876.

HENRY B. LOCH,
President.

DOUGLAS, 3d July 1876.

Dr. THE TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE MANX SOCIETY, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1ST MAY 1876. Cr.

1876.		1876.		
April 30.	To Subscriptions received . . .	£17 0 0	April 30. By sundry Incidentals . . .	£1 8 1
"	" Difference in Pounds and Guineas .	0 1 0	" " G. Sherwood for George A. Dean, for balance, Photo-	
"	" Books sold for Cash to Members .	3 18 6	" " tograph Copies of Manorial Rolls . . .	28 0 0
"	" Bank Interest . . .	16 15 5	" " Miss Kewley, for copying MS. of "Blundell's His-	
"	" Balance on hand, 1st May 1875 .	567 19 2	" " tory"	10 0 0
			May 1. By Balance to date	566 6 0
		£805 14 1		£805 14 1

P. L. GARRETT,
Treasurer.

1876.
May 1. To Balance £566 6 0

Audited and found correct,
JOHN A. BROWN.
P. KINLEY.



